Common Interests Bind District 12

By Roger Fuller

Three neighborhood groups make up district 12 in the Citizen Participation program. They have discovered they agree on certain problems, according to John Rutford, past president of the St. Anthony Park Association. The temporary planning committee is made up of five delegates each from St. Anthony Park, South St. Anthony Park and the Midway industrial area.

"When they sat down together, they perceived the same problems even though they saw them from different viewpoints," said Rutford. As an example, he pointed out that St. Anthony Park residents objected to trucks using residential streets, and trucking interests in the Midway complained of a shortage of heavy duty truck routes.

Rutford explained that the groundwork for district 12 organization is being established by a six-member by-laws committee which has met several times since it was established last fall. The group has two members each from the three neighborhoods.

Rutford said St. Anthony Park had several options but chose to join with its immediate neighbors in the formation of district 12. "We have several common interests," he said. "We're isolated from downtown St. Paul. We have the same schools and fire station. We have common arteries, such as Raymond Avenue and Route 280. What good would it have done to have gone in with Lex-Ham or Como Park?" he asked.

The 17 citizen participation districts set up for St. Paul will function in an advisory capacity to the St. Paul City Council. "There was not unanimous agreement on this advisory role but I feel it was the right decision," said Rutford. "We elect the city council to make the final decisions." He added that a city charter change would be necessary if the council were to delegate its decision making power to the neighborhood councils.

Rutford said that established neighborhood organizations are being used in the preliminary stages of the citizen participation program, because they have had experience in dealing with their areas. However, at a certain stage in the development process, the procedure must be altered somewhat. "Not all people in St. Anthony Park belong to the St. Anthony Park Association, which to present has served as the area's unofficial representative," said Rutford. "When it comes time to formally organize, an arrangement will have to be made in which the St. Anthony Park Association can pick two or three members and the rest must be elected at a public meeting at which anyone can attend."

The next Bugle will be published March 17. The deadline for copy and advertising will be March 8.

Students Raise Funds While Cleaning Up

The 550 students at St. Anthony Park Elementary School have undertaken a two-fold service project:

1. They are collecting waste aluminum to keep their neighborhood clean. 2. They are also collecting clean waste aluminum to raise funds to aid in the school program. Aluminum is 95% recyclable and the Reynolds Recycling Plant will pay 15 cents per pound for all the aluminum that can be collected.

If any family in St. Anthony Park has clean aluminum containers, clean aluminum household foil, clean aluminum cans or any other aluminum waste please save it for the students. Such waste may either be deposited in containers at the school or neighbors in the area might like to ask a student to bring theirs to school. For more information, call the school, 645-0391.
Green Thumb Sprouts in St. Anthony Park

By Kathy Diedrich

Any Minnesota winter is an appropriate season to cultivate a love for indoor plants. Many of us in St. Anthony Park have discovered the wonderful, green world of artist Nikki Reisman, who resides at 1336 Raymond Avenue.

Nikki came to St. Paul in 1971 with her husband Daniel, daughter Molly and three cats. She has since added a daughter, Sara, and an overwhelming number of house plants to her household. A neighbor sharing a cup of coffee in the lush green influence of Nikki's plants, encouraged her to go into business.

The idea took. Nikki considered a shop but decided to work out of her home while her children were little. She designed a handsome business card and flyer describing her plants and services. Nikki's imaginative macrame-planting window treatment (pictured below) is admired by all who enter her home.

If you are wondering why the Como Ave. window of Group Health suddenly became a greenery — ask Nikki. In addition to designing arrangements, plant sitting, and selling, Nikki has given talks to various groups. She has talked green growing things from garden clubs to the Wellesley Club.

Presently, Nikki is moving her fast-growing business to the art-colony building at 500 North Robert St. She will open on the seventh floor to display green plants, macrame and art work with the work of framer Mary Grieb. Until her formal opening, Nikki can be reached at 226-8741 or at 644-8247.

Nikki Reisman combines art making and plant growing to make something special.

The pot to stand in a pan of water for any length of time. Roots need oxygen.

—Harold Wilkins

Q. What are some of the requirements for success in starting garden plants indoors?

A. Light, temperature and water are important. Light: You need all the light you can get. Generally, the light indoors is not sufficiently intense. It helps if you can use a combination of natural and artificial light, as the latter may not be intense enough. Temperature: Warm-season crops such as tomatoes should have a temperature of 75°F during the day, 60°F at night. Cool-season crops such as lettuce should have 60°F during the day, 45-50°F at night. Water: Don't over-water. Let the soil dry to the point where plants are ready to wilt before you water again.

—David Davis
Store Has Scandinavian Accent
By Steve Rouch

If you are looking for handcrafted furnishings with the look and feel of quality, you don't have far to go. The Design Center on Snellng and Larpenteur directly imports stunning home furnishings from Scandinavia.

The Center opened four years ago under the direction of owner Gary Nelson. His 15 years of interior design experience and training become apparent as one browses through the store. Gary is dedicated to "modern design," and the store features furniture from Denmark, Norway, Sweden and Finland.

The overall look of the Design Center is teakwood with dashes of American rosewood throughout the store. "Teakwood is very attractive," says Gary, "and it is easy to maintain. I guess so many of our pieces are teak that we should have really called the store "House of Teak."

Gary directly imports his furniture from factories in Scandinavia. "By doing this we can offer the finest quality at reasonable prices, because we have eliminated the middleman." The Center is the major outlet in the U.S. for several companies, such as "Brusko" in Norway and "Kofort" in Denmark. Yearly buying trips to Copenhagen help Gary and his partner and wife Judy, keep up with the latest in Scandinavian furniture design.

As far as business goes the Center has been doing well. Gary points out that people seem to be really tired of glass, chrome and plastic. "People hunger for wood, leather and stone." He believes that the Scandinavians are doing better work now than ever before.

Hermes Floral Co.
Always a Special!
Wide Selection
Green Plants, Hanging Baskets, Terrariums and Large Floor Plants
2001 W. Larpenteur
646-7135

Center Provides Wee Care

"How do you spell love?" asks a four year old struggling to squeeze his name on a bright, slightly smudged valentine. The teacher smiles and prints the letters on scratch paper, and the child devote himself to copying that important word.

Of course, spelling out "love" to a group of 21 preschoolers is more than just making valentines at Wee Care Day Care Center. Located on the campus of Luther Theological Seminary at 2375 Como, Wee Care provides year-round service to children from the St. Anthony Park community as well as to children of Luther's seminary students.

The Center operates in a huge, gray and white house that was, in years past, the home of the Seminary president. Operating a day care center in such a facility is a definite advantage according to Director John Bacon. "From the moment a child walks in, he or she is in a home-like setting that is much less threatening than many facilities. The new child is quickly accepted into the group, and in a short time has learned the names of nearly all of the other children in the Center," Ms. Bacon observes.

Another advantage of being a smaller center is that Wee Care does not have to separate children into age groups, but encourages all ages to interact freely. Four year olds help two year olds and they benefit greatly from the older models for language and behavior. Small groups (based on individual maturity levels) are formed from the main group for specific activities, such as reading readiness, art, small muscle activities, large muscle games, cooking, and science activities. Such activities revolve around a different theme each week like numbers, planets, holidays, or friendship, providing an orderly, integrated pattern of learning.

With an excellent staff ratio of one teacher to seven children this method of teaching provides many options to the children. In addition, the high level of teacher training, (two nursery school teachers and one special education teacher) plus careful programming, set the stage for a lot of learning.

Another aspect of the Wee Care curriculum is its integration of Christianity into the everyday life of children. "I think preschoolers need the kind of spiritual guidance that relies more on the acquisition of positive attitudes about God than on Bible verses or doctrines. For instance, we teach "God made the beautiful colors. What colors do you see in this picture?" As children mature and ask deeper questions, we try to give them honest answers based on Christian teaching," summarizes Ms. Bacon.

Wee Care is open year-round from 7:30 to 5:30 Monday through Friday. It encourages active involvement of parents through quarterly parent meetings, conferences, the use of parents as resource people, and through daily, friendly contact with staff members. The Center is licensed for 21 children from ages two to five and will take untrained children. For more information call Joan Bacon, 646-2712 ext. 425.

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First Security State Bank
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We'll help you make the most of what you've got.
A great University is a wonderful asset to a community. Or is it? Hort Hal’s article in the January, 1976, issue of The Bugle provides much food for thought and concerted action. He has been commended for his thoughtful efforts.

There is more than meets the casual observer’s eye in the confrontation between St. Anthony Park and the University of Minnesota. I can remember when it was fun to work for the University if you were fortunate enough to be at the Farm Campus. University Farm was a focal point for agricultural development as, indeed, it still is. The University, however, has become the Great Amoeba absorbing anything and everything that stands in its way. Shall St. Anthony Park fall prey to the academic dutch elm disease of University cold-blooded environmental destruction in the name of expansion, or shall St. Anthony Park be permitted to maintain its character as one of the few remaining desirable residential areas?

Why should central administration seek to destroy the Park? Perhaps the vice presidential core can give an honest answer but the truth is against it, if a look over the shoulders at history is any guide. University “planners” seem to be unable to function without tunnel vision and the sole objective of “growth” and larger appropriations as the target. There are universities that have managed to achieve educational progress without spreading blight and sociological disease, but not many. Pennsylvania State University seems to have done a fair job as have Cornell and Colorado State University at Fort Collins. The people of St. Anthony Park should not relax and enjoy the inevitable as the rape of our community moves irresistibly forward at the whins of the “planners.”

Whether “St. Anthony Park Lib” can prevail will depend, in large part, on the pride of the people who live here. All praise to Hort Hal for bringing the issue to our attention.

Sometime in February, the State legislature will be consideration House File 1377 sponsored in part by Rep. Mike George. The bill in its present form would allow lending institutions to charge more than the current usury rate of 8 per cent on real estate mortgages. The new rate would be tied to the rate on long term government bonds. As I understand it, the maximum allowable in today’s market would be 9 1/2 per cent. The bill would prohibit discount points, pre-payment penalties, and limit assumption charges to 1/10 of 1 per cent. Also, it could provide interest to be paid on escrow accounts, in some instances.

Minnesota is the last state in the Union to keep the 8 per cent usury limit. As a result, lending institutions are sending money out of state where the return is better. The only available financing in Minnesota is FHA or V.A. Many appraisers are not familiar with market values and conditions in our area and will often establish a safe price of less than the local market. In addition, they usually require some improvements to be made before a loan can be made, and will not allow the price to be increased to compensate for the cost of such repairs.

It has been my experience that any prudent seller will increase the price of his house to compensate for the points he is required to pay so the buyer can qualify for a loan. It is required that a Certificate of Value be filed with a deed transferring the title of real estate. One copy of the certificate is sent to the tax assessor. The assessor uses that gross value of several such sales as one item in establishing taxes in a given area. So it is possible for every homeowner to suffer by a higher tax, even if he or she is not buying or selling.

Conventional mortgage money is available almost everywhere in the United States, except Minnesota, at a lower rate than we are paying here as we are being “protected” by the 8 per cent usury law.

I would personally like to commend Representative Mike George and wish him well with his bill.

Charles E. Silberman, in his book *Oris in the Classroom*, compares English school children with American school children, commenting, among other things, about not having seen in England the glazed eyes that he sees in America. His descriptions are correct, and what he saw more than five years ago can still be observed today. But he misses the point when it comes to understanding the reasons for what he observed. He attributes it solely to the American school system, though what he actually saw can just as easily be attributed to the American way with TV. If Mr. Silberman were writing a book now, he might, with the growing interest in television criticism, give different explanations for the glazed eyes of America’s children.

L. John Elsing
Television
Murray High School

Legislature Looks at Minn. Usury Law

Editor’s note: Administrative officials at the University were contacted and invited to respond to Hort Hal’s editorial in the January issue. William Hueg, deputy vice president, was out of the country, and therefore, unavailable. He will be contacted upon his return. Clinton Hewitt, vice president for physical planning, is in the process of preparing an article for the March issue of the Bugle.

THE PARK BUGLE

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Some teachers tell of being unobserved, even frightened, by the blank looks of some children.

The work which troubled children is perhaps too often not careful. The real wonder today is not that some children do not learn to write well, but that they learn to write at all. It is not difficult to work into a class, and find that there are many children in it who seem unable to sit up in order to write neatly and well on paper. The children are easygoing, likeable, but when one tries to guide or direct them, they are often negative, out of sorts, touchy. Perhaps it is nothing so much as it is crankiness; more often than not, they are tired. They lie sprawled across the desk tops. Some teachers try to help them to write or to read, the response is often a brusque "Why should I?"

Such behavior is so prevalent today that it is unrealistic to expect any teacher to combat it successfully for long. Indeed, it is becoming common to hear that teachers are suffering from "battle fatigue." Teachers simply cannot waste themselves day after day trying to get good responses from children who are unable to react well to reasonable requests. To some casual observers in the schools, the disdain of these children seems nonchalant, cute, "cool," not to say that people have even labeled it sophistication. It is a sophistication of sorts, true, but of an unfortunate kind, for it borders on jadedness. These children are used up. They cannot contribute in significant ways. They "throw things around" but they cannot work.

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News from Falcon Hts.

By Steve Rouch

The Falcon Heights City Council recently strengthened State Statutes 146 and 147, which read in brief: "There shall be no sale of intoxicating liquors, consumption or display after 1 a.m. in a public place." The newly revised ordinance places emphasis on the fact that the display of liquor after 1 a.m. is against the law and advises consumption on or before 1 a.m. of any and all remaining liquor when in a public bar or restaurant.

The Open Space and Trailways Ordinance 99 was reviewed in reference to snowmobilers. Emphasis on the use of trailways as opposed to the use of public roadways was strongly recommended to the Ramsey County League. There are tentative proposals for a County wide trailway system in conjunction with the ordinance.

After Church, have a Sundae dinner

Give Mom a break today and have a "Sunday" dinner at Bridgeman. For today only, Bridgeman's famous "Plate and Platter Dinners" are available from 11 AM till 8 PM. Bridgeman Plate and Platter Dinners are the perfect "after church" Sundae Dinners for the whole family. You get lots of variety, a Bridgeman Tulp Sundae for dessert, and it's all for a very reasonable price.

Choose from the Deep Water Filet Dinner, Golden Brown Chicken Dinner, the Jumbo Beef Plate, Ham Steak Dinner, French Fried Butterfly Shrimp and many more. Included in the price is the Tulp Sundae of your choice—and that's made from genuine, old-fashioned Bridgeman Ice Cream... wyow you know this is a dinner you can't get anywhere else in town. Have a Sunday dinner after church today.

PARK PEOPLE

By Sharon Bassett

"His eyes how they twinkled! his dimples how merry!" wrote Clement C. Moore of Old St. Nick back in 1822, and a better description of Neil Christian could not be found. Neil Christian wasn't just a balladeer. He was a man who felt deeply about sharing the simple joys of living through his songs.

Neil Christian was born in Northfield, Minnesota, 54 years ago. He attended school there, and after service in the Marine Corps during World War II, he returned to Minnesota to attend the University of Minnesota and received a degree in Mechanical Engineering. On Dec. 18, 1975, Neil Christian died of injuries resulting from a motor accident while on tour of the Midwest.

As a child listening to his father sing, he began to learn words to simple ballads and added to that collection throughout his life. It wasn't until he was a teenager that he bought his first guitar and started making music. Neil suffered from a speech impediment and at the urging of a teacher was able to overcome it by putting himself behind a guitar and singing. It was more than just a hobby to Neil, it was a real love of music that led him to continue to collect and learn old ballads.

In 1953, Neil and his wife, Virginia, moved to Stansih Street in the Park. Here they raised their five sons and one daughter while Neil was employed as an engineer with Honeywell. As with many engineers across the nation, Neil found himself without work in the late summer of 1970. With the encouragement of others, he began to believe his love of music could provide him with a new career. And so in 1971, he professionally became a balladeer.

If you asked Neil when he started to play and sing ballads he would say he didn't really know, "It was something that just grew. You couldn't say I learned a song this week of that year—it is sung over and over so it rubs off on you .. and I never really knew when I started singing it myself and I quit listening to my dad sing it."

Whether one or one hundred, Neil needed an audience. Singing to him was a sharing experience, one of giving and feeling music. He felt what he gave to an audience was only as good as what they felt and gave in return. He was a familiar face around the Park. Most of us had the opportunity to hear him sing, whether at the Spring Art Fair, the 4th of July Celebration, the State Fair, or a concert at the schools.

The ballads he sang were passed down from generation to generation and were often of struggles people endured—lovers parting, homeless children, murders of love, and men going off to wars or prisons—in songs of sadness and loss. It wasn't unusual for an audience listening to Neil sing his "Ballads of By-Gone Days" to feel this sadness and respond with tear-filled eyes. Once asked how he could sing these songs without crying, he replied, "My crying's on the inside."

Neil's songs, his stories, and his familiar stout figure strolling among us, guitar in hand, will all be missed. But perhaps most of all those twinkling eyes!
Leisure Center: A T

by Gail McClure

We went to take a few pictures. Then we met some very interesting people and stayed for lunch too.

Such is likely to be the experience of anyone who drops in at the Leisure Center held Wednesdays mornings in the St. Anthony Park Methodist Church. In its sixth year, the Center offers fine food and fellowship for all who care to participate. (Membership, however, is limited to persons 60 years of age or older.) The Center charges $1 per person and hosts nearly 70 people per week. They boast that they have one of the few self-supporting centers in the Twin Cities.

One reason for the Center’s self-sufficiency is Anna Bloom. A retired head baker from St. Joseph’s Hospital, Anna plans menus, buys groceries and cooks the lunches. And what Anna turns out on her limited budget is truly amazing. “I hate the day I have to use leftovers,” says Anna. And normally she doesn’t. Members are anxious to purchase her overflow.

Anna’s really good to us,” notes Nora John-

son. “She brings relishes. She must can and pickling for us. And there’s a lot of variety, and there’s usually some cake or cookies.” Nora might be cooking a plate of cookies for the members at Christmas parties or Easter.

Anna’s dilemma is that she can’t keep the workers: “Anna, someone wants to go, someone wants to come. And we want anyone to go. Sometimes I can’t run a little too late. The workers had a half-day and it’s a whole day for the others.”

Anna’s “workers” are not only the Center’s volunteers, but on the weekend, they are the church choir. Usually four volunteers are needed in the morning; then six more to serve and help clean up.

While Anna’s busy preparing the meals, her workers enjoy their work. They can be found anywhere in the kitchen or working with the other volunteers or behind the registration desk.

After lunch is served...
made pickles and all summer canning. And we get such a
always special treats offering to the huge
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people: she hates left-
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be hungry. “Only one
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writing or help at the
promptly at noon) the
moment is savored and then members sit
back in their chairs to enjoy the program.
“I’ve visited the Center a few times, and I’m
really impressed at the quality of the pro-
grams they have over there,” said Milo Pet-
erson. Adrienne Mullin agrees that the pro-
grams are excellent. “We have many people
who were connected with the University
and have traveled a lot . . . and then of course
the seminary being so close by helps . . . plus
we try to ‘scrounge off’ all the local talent!”

Adrienne served on the committee which
originated the Leisure Center six years ago.
“Ethyl Burch was the ‘spark plug’ for it,”
Adrienne recalls. “She formed the com-
mittee, and we visited other centers and then we
set a date and got started on our own.”

Drop in at the Leisure Center some Wednes-
day about 10 a.m. The place has a special
quality about it. “I appreciate the fact that
I’m appreciated, and that’s why I’m still
doing this at the age of 71,” says Anna
Bloom. That feeling that what each indi-
vidual does counts explains why attendance
stays high week after week, reflecting the ease
of people who have found what’s important in
life.

Often Leisure Center
members like Irene
Erickson (left) and
Elizabeth McDonald
help clean up in the
kitchen. Various sew-
ing projects consume
the leisure of many of
the ladies. Here Violet
Mudroy ties on a quilt
before lunch and Ethel
Burch chats in the
background.

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ST. ANTHONY PARK UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
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ST. ANTHONY PARK UNITED METHODIST
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The Bugle 8

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Punch-inello Players Present ‘Twigs’

The regional premiere of the comic-drama "Twigs" will be presented by Punchinello Players on February 20, and will run for two weekends at their North Hall theatre.

The play, by George Furth, was acclaimed on Broadway when it appeared in 1971. It is the funny-sad story of four women (three daughters and their mother) who range in ages from 35 to 75. Each scene of the two hour drama explores one woman's lifestyle, her marriage, her children, and her vulnerabilities. The New York Daily News called the play "an affectionate celebration of a handful of very ordinary people who have managed to survive."

Directing the winter quarter production for Punch is Ms. Niki Ciacco an MFA candidate at the U of M and graduate of Illinois Wesleyan University.

Bill Fuchs, technical chairman for Punch, staged the play which calls for four different living room sets. Diane Lorvig as Celia and Dorothy and Nancy Silva as Emily and Ma share the women's roles.

Tickets may be purchased this week and next at the St. Paul Campus Student Center or at the door of the theatre for $1.75. The North Hall theatre is located behind the Student Center, curtain is at eight and the play runs approximately two hours.

Porch

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At Home

The Victorian house at 2239 Gordon Ave. rests on a hill across from Langford Park. It is colorful in winter with its red hue and white trim, and in summer with the trees and flowers growing along the winding path leading to the entrance. The catalpa tree by the house is reportedly one of the oldest and largest in the city.

Mrs. F.W. Brey, present owner of the house, has done the gardening in past years. Her specialty? Hybrid irises.

The original land, consisting of three lots, was purchased in 1885 from Mr. Charles H. Pratt by Mr. Isaac Cheney. Construction on the house was completed in 1891. The Cheneys lived there until 1920. In 1921 Mr. and Mrs. Robert Washburn purchased the house. Outside yet today is an old millstone thought to be from the Washburn-Crosby Mill. Around 1930 the house was sold to Mr. John Rockwell and Mrs. F.W. Brey purchased the house in 1946 and lives there now with her daughter, Ann and her son Paul.

A porch to the side of the double doors leads a visitor into the entry way. To the right is a parlor which is separated from the living room by sliding wooden doors. These doors are made out of two kinds of wood, oak and ash, to prevent shrinkage or warping. The living room has a fireplace, and a large bay window gives ample light to many plants. At the far end of the room, French doors lead to the back yard.

Looking out, one can see the garage which at one time was a stable for the horses and carriage. Nearby, a small plum tree, planted when the house was built, stands bent from the early winds that whipped around it when most of the surrounding land was prairie. It survived and still bears occasional fruit.

The dining room, to the left of the entry way, has a fireplace and sliding wooden doors. The structure of the house has not been altered except to update the kitchen. The second floor has a bathroom and five bedrooms, with one bedroom having an interesting curved wall. The other side of the wall gives a graceful entrance into another bedroom. There is also a full third floor which gives access to an outside balcony.

Tracing my steps back down the winding path, I anticipated spring and the willow tree and the flowers budding once again.

The residence of Mrs. F.W. Brey at 2239 Gordon Ave.

Story and Photo by Mary Walker Sjowall

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We will be closing Monday, Feb. 16 and plan to re-open Friday, Feb. 27. During that time we will undergo extensive expansion and remodeling. We will be adding cocktail service, a banquet facility and a new look.

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Forced Branches
Make Indoor Spring

By Hort Hal

You may think Minnesota winters are rotten, no good and worthless.

Not true! If for some strange reason we never had winter, our native plants would go into "dormancy" as the days got shorter and shorter, cease to grow and relax. Why? Not enough weeks of "cold."

Hence, our plants in nature would be up an unfrozen creek without a cold treatment.

The length and degree of cold certainly will vary from species to species. Furthermore plants in Minnesota require at least six weeks to three months of cold. This cold treatment is necessary if "dormancy" is broken and new growth is to start.

So...let's take advantage of this "egg-head" information and have some fun -- start forcing branches into flower and leaf weeks ahead of our spring.

There's nothing like a bowl of spring flowering trees or shrubs to brighten up the wintry days. There are a few requirements and the materials, which can be gathered from your yard or from nearby woodlands and fields, need not cost you a cent. The buds are ready to develop whenever moisture and warmth are supplied.

You can prune branches from trees and shrubs and bring them indoors. Most branches show an abundance of buds along the younger branches. Be sure to select branches that are well budded, and that have a large number of the flower buds. Some fruit trees bear flowers on short branches called "spurs." Look for these when you select apple, pear and ornamental crab.

Judicious pruning practices should be followed so that the form of the tree or shrub is not destroyed. Always prune off branches flush with the trunk or main branches so no stubs are left. Select interestingly shaped branches with an eye towards arrangement possibilities. If you keep in mind the place you will be displaying your forced branches and the type of container you will be using, you will be able to choose branches which are most usable with the least amount of pruning and shaping afterwards.

After collecting the branches, bring them indoors and smash the stem ends with a hammer to encourage water intake. You can do this most easily on a wooden chopping block or on the cellar floor. The next step is to moisten the bud scales and branches to hasten development. Soak the branches over night in water of room temperature in a large laundry tub or the bath tub. After soaking, the crushed stem ends are placed in a pail of water for forcing. A floral preservative should be added to the water. It can be obtained from your local florist or garden center.

Spray the branches with water several times a day for two or three days. A piece of damp burlap or plastic wrapped loosely around the branches will help to keep the air humid. This method is particularly good if you are preparing a large quantity of branches.

Place the branches in a relatively cool spot to develop (60°- 65°F./15.5°-18.5°C). Higher temperatures will cause buds to develop rapidly, but at the expense of size, color and keeping quality. Remember that these plants ordinarily flower in the spring when temperature are in the 60's or lower. Select a room which has as much light as possible.

The length of time before a forced branch comes into flower depends on the species, nearness to normal outside blooming time, and the forcing temperature. By varying the species and the time of cutting the branches, you can be assured of a continuous succession of bloom indoors from mid-winter until spring. When individual buds are developed and some color is evident, remove the branches from the pail and arrange them for display. Branches taken from a crowded pail are less likely to have bruised or broken flowers if removed prior to full bloom and you can get a great deal of enjoyment from watching the flowers gradually open.

For making arrangements in low bowls use needlepoint holders to hold the branches in position. For tall vases, use chicken wire to hold the stems. Floral preservatives should also be used in the water. Check the level of water daily.

Here are some possibilities for forcing:

Norway maple and varieties (interesting yellow flower clusters); red maple (small red-orange flowers in clusters); swamp alder (long yellow catkins which develop in less than two weeks); Juniper (white cherry-like blossoms which force quickly). European birch (graceful curving branches with catkins and light green leaves); Redbud (magenta-pink, pea-shaped flowers covering the twigs).

Scouts Stitch

On Tuesday, February 10, 1976, at 7 p.m., Junior Scout Troop #839 presented a valentine banner and valentines to the residents of the home run by the National Federal of the Blind of Minnesota, 1605 Eustis. The banner was a combination of applique and stitchery in a valentine motif.

The girls learned the techniques used on the project in recent meetings and they will be earning a needlecraft badge for their work. Research on braille was done by the girls in order to include words on their tactile creation.

Aging Examined

An all day workshop for persons interested in the aging process will be held March 8, 1976 at Interact, 5850 Excelsior Blvd. Minneapolis, 55416.

Carol Safer, St. Anthony Park resident will be a facilitator with Nancy Springer. Interact believes that this workshop is one of the first to give special attention to the age group between 35-70. For additional information call Carol Safer 636-8549 or Interact 926-6591.

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In these three titles, Hugo and Nebula award-winning author Ursula K. Le Guin has created a stunning trilogy for young lovers of science fiction, fantasy, and magical writings. Within the mythical region of Earthsea, an archipelago of many kingdoms and magical beliefs, the reader follows the completion of a centuries old prophecy that restores peace to the archipelago and places a single ruler over all the islands.

According to legend, a ring had belonged to the great hero Erthe-Akhe, with nine runes of power etched on its outside. The ring had been broken in half with four and one half runes on one half; four and one half runes on the other. The broken, or lost rune, was that of ruling, of peace over all the islands. No one king could rule Earthsea without it, but the ring had been lost long; one half given to a Kargish king and handed down within his family until long forgotten, the other half lost to the Tombs of Atuan.

In the first book, A Wizard of Earthsea, the sorcerer Ged recovers the half of the ring lost among the Kargish family, but without realizing what it is. In this book Ged is a young man, learning the ways of wizardry and discovering through disaster the price of arrogance and pride.

In the second book, The Tombs of Atuan, the tale is Arha's, a young girl bound in service to the nameless powers of darkness. She serves the old powers until the coming of Ged, who has learned the meaning of the half ring he now wears around his neck, and who is determined to enter the tombs and steal the other half hidden within its labyrinthine walls. Together Arha and Ged rescue each other from the dark tombs, with both halves of the ring and the lost rune of peace restored.

In the final volume, The Farthest Shore, all that remains to complete the prophecy is the crowning of the king of all the isles. It had been 800 years since one king ruled all Earthsea, and it was hoped that the rune of peace would lead to that crowning. Instead, a terrible imbalance occurred and light and life were draining out of the world. Into this situation comes young Arha, who travels with the now elderly Ged on a journey throughout the islands for the source of the evil. However, not until he has crossed the farthest shore, the region of death, and returned alive, can he claim his rightful heritage.

In these books Le Guin has created an imaginary world of long ago with a highly sophisticated metaphysical system which she presents with disarming ease. Readers in varied fields will delight in the electric way she has culled her story from mythic and occult sources.

Though the books are woven together by the quest for the ring and the ruler of Earthsea, each volume of the trilogy stands alone. Characters are clearly defined and show substantial growth and development as they resolve the situations confronting them. The writing style throughout is clean and never preachy and should appeal to fantasy readers of all ages. The Earthsea trilogy takes its place alongside an increasing number of books that call for an end to arbitrary age bracketing, thus widening their circle of readership and enjoyment.

Johnson Joins Gilbertson

On March 1, Dr. Caroly n Johnson will join Dr. David Gilbertson in his medical practice. The office is located at 2315 Como Ave.
Bits & Pieces

There will be a one-month showing of local artists at the Gallery Garage starting February 27. The Gallery, located at 2412 Valentine in St. Anthony Park, will host the public opening on Friday, February 27 from 5:30-9:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served at the opening.

Regular hours for the show will be Monday, 5-9 p.m., and Wednesday through Saturday, 11-3 p.m. during the month of March.

Back by popular demand! A wild animal will again visit the St. Anthony Park Branch Library, 2250 Como Avenue, Friday, March 5. Tom Lease of Cougars Unlimited will bring one of his big cats and talk about endangered animal species. The same free program is offered at 2:00 and 2:30 p.m. Children and adults are invited.

A free income tax counseling service for elderly and retired persons is now available through the Tax-Aide program of the American Association of Retired Persons and the National Retired Teachers Association.

The counseling service is available February 2 through April 15, at the following locations Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Jehovah Lutheran Church at Thomas and Snelling, the Northwestern State Bank, 875 E. Minnehaha Avenue, the Senior Citizens Center, 349 Washington Avenue from the hours of 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

WEDDING PHOTOGRAPHERS — It’s not too early to contract for your photographer for a spring wedding — Call 464-6707.

DOLL HOUSE MINIATURES — Wishing Well, 621 S. Cleveland Avenue, St. Paul, 699-8390.

BRIDESMAID DRESSES — shown to order. Most styles $15.00. Call 444-1478.

SEMINARY STUDENT will do anything, painting, cleaning, home-stitching, shoeing, or call 464-2712, ext. 34.

TRANSFERRED? Have a home to sell? We are looking for a two-story, three-bedroom home in St. Anthony Park, 488-3466.

28 YR. OLD M. educator needs charming, older apt. in the “Park,” by May 1 or June 1. References upon request. 227-2639 weekdays after 6 p.m. Have a good day!

HANDCRAFTED LAMPS AND candleholders, $30.00 and $15.00, 488-4007, 1185 Churchill.

QUIET FEMALE VET STUDENT would like to rent apt., duplex, or 1/2 house, within walking distance of St. Paul Campus. This spring or sooner. Call 647-0908.

Try a Bugle Want Ad at ten cents per word with $1.00 minimum. Send your ad with check enclosed to: The Park Bugle, 2250 Como Ave. St. Paul, Minn. $5108.

AVON USERS: I will gladly take your Avon Orders for this area. Please call and set up an appointment. Mrs. Joan Jensen, 2380 Bourne Ave., 446-4729.

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