



Hazel Harvey never painted before she retired. Now she spends many hours at her hobby. Like many area residents over 60 years of age, Hazel attends the Leisure Center each Wednesday in the St. Anthony Park Methodist Church. For more on Leisure Center activities, turn to page 6.

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."

Rutford said the present ratio of equal strength for the three neighborhoods will probably be temporary. "It will retain credibility as long as it is a proper voice for the area," he said. Rutford said South St. Anthony Park was given equal voting strength with St. Anthony Park even though it has only one-fourth its population, because the area already had a funding program in progress. "There will come a time when St. Anthony Park will want voting strength in relation to the population of the district."

Editor's note: The District 12 committee will be holding two public hearings on the proposed set of by-laws for the district community council. The first will occur March 16, in the upstairs assembly room of the Congregational Church, 2129 Commonwealth. The Second meeting will be held March 31 in the American Legion Hall at Raymond and Territorial Road at 7 & 7:30 p.m. Copies of the proposed by-laws will be available shortly after March 1, in a number of local businesses as well as the St. Anthony Park Public Library, the PAC office in South St. Anthony, 2380 Hampden Ave. and the District 12 site office at 2342 University Ave.

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

Country Store to Be Held at CTC

The Commonwealth Terrace Community Child Care Center will hold its first annual "Country Store" on Saturday, Feb. 28, from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. upstairs in the Center at 1250 Fifield Place.

The Country Store will include an attic sale, bake sale, and a raffle. The attic sale will offer used clothing, household articles, toys, books, etc. Ten local merchants, in addition to

the Center, donated a variety of prizes for the raffle, from free dinners to a vibrator massager. Raffle tickets will cost 25 cents each, and it is not necessary to be present to win.

There will be a free babysitting service from 10 a.m. to noon in the Child Care Center downstairs. Free coffee will be served all day. For more information, call Pamela Farhas, 644-5251.

Garden Classes Begin

Growing Groceries, how to produce your own fresh vegetables, will be the topic discussed at four branch library locations in March. Joe Peterson, Ramsey County Extension Agent, will discuss planning your vegetable garden, preparing the soil, selecting and ordering hardy Minnesota seed varieties, as well as tips to insure a good vegetable harvest.

The same free talk beginning at 7 p.m. will be held March 2, at the Highland Park Branch, 1974 Ford Pkwy; March 8, at the Arlington Hills Branch,

1105 Greenbrier; March 10, at the Sun Ray Branch, 2105 Wilson Avenue and March 16, at the Hamline Branch, 1558 W. Minnehaha Avenue.

THE COVER

The map pictured on the cover is a portion of a larger map drawn by Michael Joyce of St. Anthony Park. If you are interested in seeing the total area map or a larger drawing of a specific area, please contact the Gallery Garage, 2412 Valentine Avenue, St. Paul 55108, 645-0461.

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 15c a pound for all the aluminum that can be collected.

If any family in St. Anthony Park has clean aluminum containers, clean aluminum



Recycling aluminum for fun and profit are, from left to right, Billy Bergstrom, Tyrone Lindsey, Scott Johnson and Miles Phillips. Photo by Mary Walker Sjowall.

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.

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Q. I'd like to start my tomato plants indoors. How soon should I plant the seeds?

A. Many people start tomatoes too early. Five to six weeks in advance of transplanting to the garden generally is early enough. If you plan to start them indoors, try to arrange to move them outside to a warm, sunny location after about five true leaves develop, and then transplant into the garden about a week later. If you have a protected site and are willing to take a chance, plan to transplant around May 10 (otherwise, around Memorial Day is a safe time).

Dr. David Davis,
Dept. of Horticultural Science

Q. Could you suggest a timetable for planting some of the vegetables that can be started successfully with proper indoor conditions?

A. "Getting Started with Your Vegetable Garden," Extension Folder 164, has a table of planting dates for indoors and outside, besides many other tips on planting the vegetable garden. Copies are available free from Bulletin Room, University of Minnesota, St. Paul 55108.

—David Davis

Q. When would you sow seed indoors for marigolds, zinnias, petunias and begonias?

A. Marigold and zinnias grow and flower rapidly from seed in the garden after good warm days start. Petunias and begonias do need a head start for early color and production, but the problem in the home is poor light and resulting poor quality plants for the garden. I would suggest, instead, buying plants from a dependable source. However, if you can grow the plants under cool-white fluorescent lights, start the slow-growing plants from seeds in mid-March, the faster plants in mid-April.

—Dr. Harold Wilkins,
Dept. of Horticultural Science

Q. Would it be all right to use milk cartons to start seed indoors?

A. Milk cartons become water logged and frequently fall apart. They also must have water drain holes cut in the sides and bottom. Never allow

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.

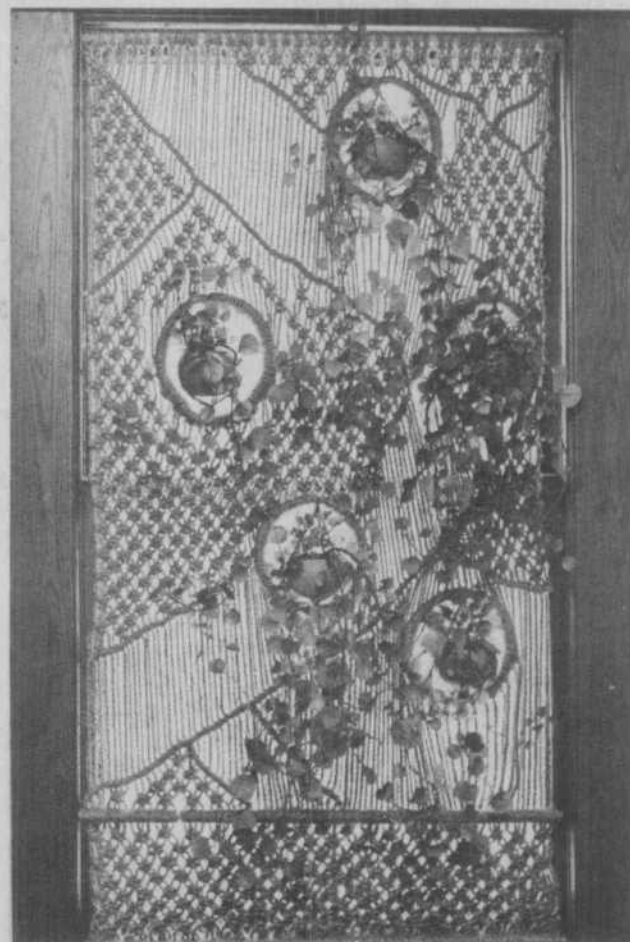
Nikki came to St. Paul in 1971 with her husband Daniel, daughter Molly and three cats. She has since added a daughter, Sara, and an overwhelming number of house plants to her household. A neighbor sharing a cup of coffee in the lush green influence of Nikki's plants, encouraged her to go into business.

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 Griep. Until her formal opening, Nikki can be reached at 226-8741 or at 646-8247.



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 hand-crafted furnishings with the look and feel of quality, you don't have far to go. The Design Center on Snelling 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



Gary Nelson, owner of The Design Center

have eliminated the middle man." The Center is the major outlet in the U.S. for several companies, such as "Brusko" in Norway and "Komfort" 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.

"Scandinavians know good design, and they really have the craftsmanship to put things together well," he continued.

Gary Nelson normally doesn't believe in sales. Last year, however, he had a sales promotion to alleviate an overstocked situation. It was a huge success, so this year, in March, he is thinking about having another one. "It wasn't the dollars that turned me on as much as the new people that we brought in. Some people had never really seen furniture like this before. 'It was fun watching them get excited,'" Gary concluded.

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 devotes 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's 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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PUBLISHER: Park Press Inc., a community non-profit organization with a Board of Directors.

EDITOR: Gail McClure, 774-7216.

FEATURE EDITOR: Kathy Diedrich, 646-6707 or 646-2493.

ADVERTISING MANAGER: Joe Skovholt, 646-1191.

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER: Mary Walker Sjowall, 645-4949.

- Published the third Wednesday of each month
- Mailing address: 2250 Como Ave., St. Paul, Mn. 55108.
- Drop-off address: 2274 Como Ave., St. Paul.
- Phone: 646-6707.



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 is to be 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 corps can give an honest response, but the odds are against it, if a look over the shoulders at history is any guide. University "planners"

St. Paul City Councilman John Christensen, 2194 Dudley Ave., filed for a second term to the council Feb. 6, emphasizing his service to St. Paul neighborhoods.

Filing against Christensen Friday was Duane Jenkins of 2338 Chilcombe Ave.

Filing for school board seats were John Rutford, 1348 Raymond Ave., and Cathy Hartnett, 269 Goodhue St.

Have you been thinking about writing your State Congressmen this legislative session? Let them know how you feel on the issues.

For District 62A, area legislators are Representative Neil Dieterich and Senator Bob North. All should be sent to the State Capitol, St. Paul, Minn.

SAINT ANTHONY PARK LIB LIVES

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 whims 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.

Al Falfa Bale

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.



What does too much television do to children?

We can begin with the word *tired*. We know that some television shows after 11:30 in the evening have a 10 percent pre-teen audience. We also know that perhaps as many as 60 percent of the nation's school children are not in bed at 10 o'clock. We also know from bulletins and newsletters that school personnel across the country urge parents (usually without success) to get children to bed earlier. People who work in the schools know that many children do not come to school refreshed. They know that these children are not ready for, and are thus not able to do, a good day's work.

School nurses remind us that children need their rest and that it is unhealthy for them to miss hours of sleep night after night. Though what the nurses say is simply common sense, too many parents ignore it; some parents have forgotten what a tired child looks like.

No matter where one goes in America, teachers remark that too many children seem worn out before the day begins.

TV Dulls the Senses?

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

The work which tired children do is perfunctory, 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 walk 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. When one tries 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." Some misguided 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.

Charles E. Silberman, in his book *Crisis 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 his 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

Sometime in February, the State legislature will be considering 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 1/4 per cent. The bill would prohibit discount points, pre-payment penalties, and limit assumption charges to 1/10 of 1 per cent. Also, it would require interest to be paid on tax 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 F.H.A. or V.A. Because they are Federal programs, they are not subject to the state imposed 8 per cent limit. Because of the

extra charges allowed on F.H.A. and Veterans loans, called points, (one point being 1 per cent of the amount borrowed) the net annual percentage rate (APR) has been averaging about 10 per cent, if calculated over the full term of the loan, usually 30 years. If the loan is paid up sooner, the return to the lender is increased.

In an established community such as North St. Anthony Park, the problems are increased because many of the houses do not meet F.H.A. and V.A. standards. Many appraisers are not familiar with market values and conditions in our area and will often establish a sale price of much 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 com-

pensate 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 Knudsen
Knudsen Realty*

Editor's note: We invite additional commentary on this controversial topic.



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 Standish 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 — 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!



Neil Christian accompanies himself with an unusual instrument, a harp guitar made around the turn of the century.

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.



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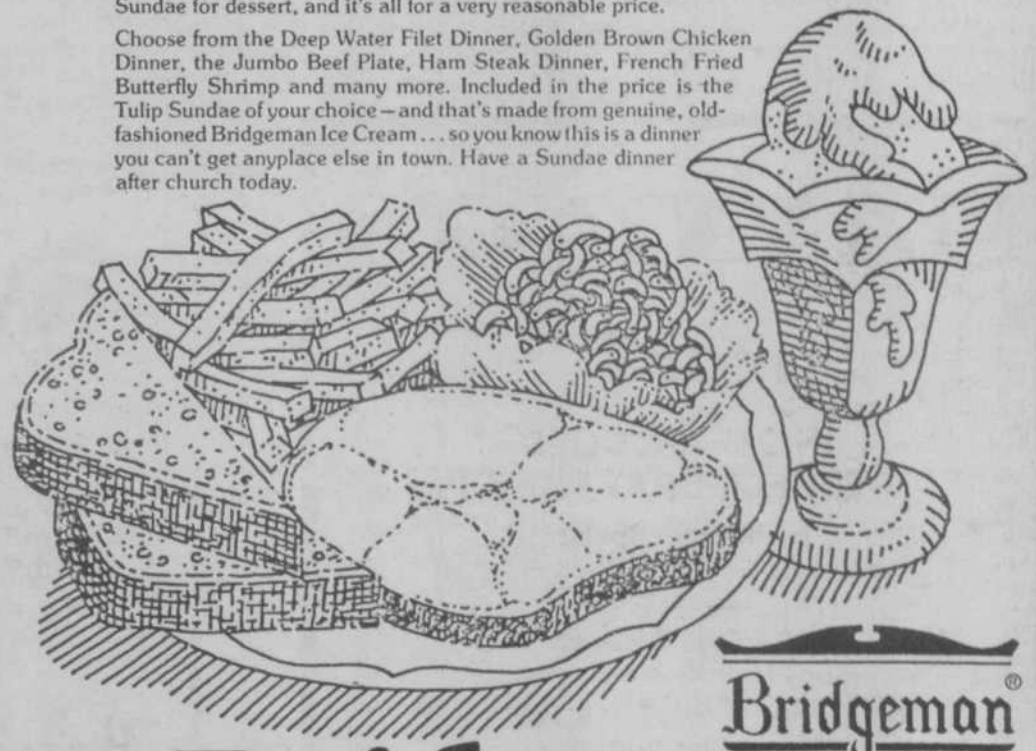


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Leisure Center: A T

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 Wednesday 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 s and pickling for u variety, and there a too." Nora might b plate of cookies members at Christn ly birthday parties.

Anna's dilemma is overs, but on the want anyone to go time did I run a litt workers had a half whole. . . ."

Anna's "workers" cruited by the chure Usually four volunte morning; then six m to serve and help cl

While Anna's busy members enjoy their or work on sewing volved in painting a registration desk.

After lunch is served



Card playing is a favorite pastime at the center. Here we looked over Elsie Tow's shoulder as she played bridge with Gertrude Sorteberg (left), Alice Gilyard, and Bill Stevenson. Anna Bloom prepares the meals. Volunteers from local churches come to help in the kitchen.



MANNING'S

No. 1

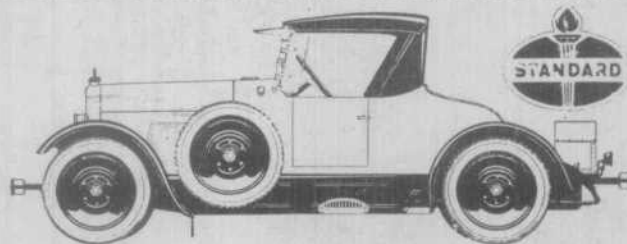
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ple: she hates left-hand, she doesn't like being hungry. "Only one short and some of my food of meat instead of a

the volunteers re- in the neighborhood. help her cook in the kitchen arrive shortly after 11 up.

s the kitchen, most are. Many play cards and other projects. Others get in- drawing or help at the

romptly 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 programs they have over there," said Milo Peterson. Adrienne Mullin agrees that the programs 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 'scoop 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 committee, and we visited other centers and then we set a date and got started on our own."

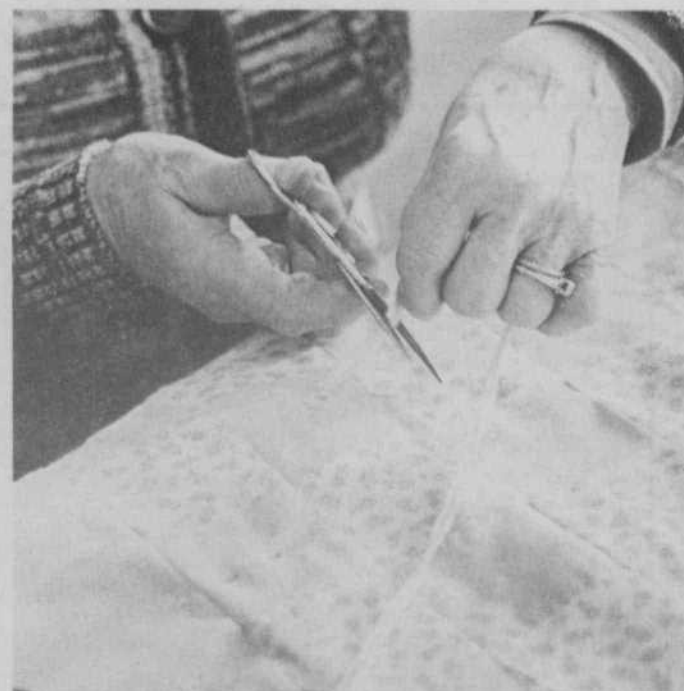
Drop in at the Leisure Center some Wednesday about 10 a.m. The place has a special quality about it. "I appreciate the fact that I'm appreciated, and that's why I'm still doing this at the age of 71," says Anna Bloom. That feeling that what each individual does counts explains why attendance stays high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



 **Photos by Don Breneman**



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



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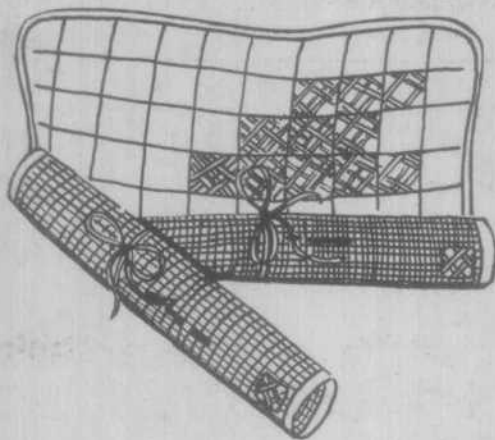
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Punch- inello Players Present 'Twigs'

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 strengths, 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 Ciaccio 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 Lorig 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.



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



Story and Photo by
Mary Walker Sjewall

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.

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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 eventually die. 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, but most 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. The requirements are few 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 overnight 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 pails 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); Juneberry (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 ran 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 6, 1976 at Interact, 5050 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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Books:

By Jeanyne Bezoir Slettom

A Wizard of Earthsea, The Tombs of Atuan, The Farthest Shore, all by Ursula K. Le Guin, Bantam, \$1.50 each.

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 Erreth-Akbe, 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 long lost; 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 Arren, 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 well. 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. Carolyn Johnson will join Dr. David Gilbertson in his medical practice. The office is located at 2315 Como Ave.

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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, 2245 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 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.



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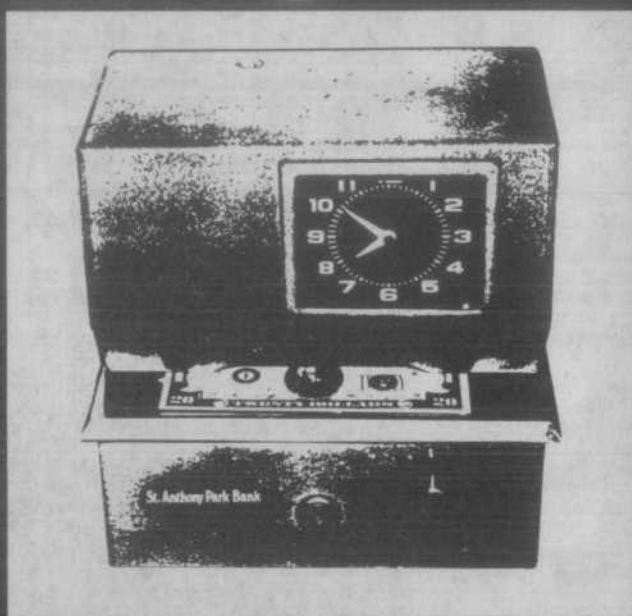
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