Latimer aid outlines fee plan for non-essential services

by Terri Ezekiel

Would you be willing to pay a fee for a library card, for a recreation center membership or for new trees on your street? If not, in the future you may lose these long taken-for-granted city services.

Mayor George Latimer has proposed that "user fees" be instituted as a way of preserving current levels of city services in today's climate of budget cuts and declining resources.

The idea was outlined by Dick Broeker, Latimer's executive assistant, at a public meeting in January at the Meriam Park Community Center. Broeker said the city has commissioned a study by the Rand Corporation that will enable city budget planners to "get a clearer analysis of the true costs of city services." Once the study is completed in February or March, Broeker said, it then can be determined which services are "essential" and which are "non-essential."

"That (distinction) is not as easy as it may sound," Broeker said. "We've led ourselves into believing that certain things are essential."

"For example, firefighters are essential, but it may not be essential to have as many as we do now," Broeker said, pointing out that some firemen are used to check microwave ovens at no charge. Broeker also used paramedic service as an example of a service that is seen as essential, but may not be one the city should provide.

"We didn't have paramedic service 20 years ago and even today many cities still don't have it. We like the paramedic service, and we're not planning to get rid of it, but we have to ask is it something that the city should be doing."

In contrast, Broeker said, some services may be viewed as non-essential though the elimination of them would have serious consequences.

"You might say that street sweep-

Chez Nous buys house on Carter Ave.,
director Kastrul sees goal within reach

by Mollie Hoben

After almost two years of planning and working through the system, Dan Kastrul, director of Chez Nous, the corporation that plans to operate a group home in St. Anthony Park for six retarded persons, sees his goal within reach.

Kastrul has purchased the house at 2248 Carter Ave., and if all goes as planned, he expects to begin operation there in March.

In the meantime, he is processing referrals of residents and hiring staff.

Kastrul expects that the residents of Chez Nous will be people currently living in Cambridge state hospital. Although he determines who to admit of the many people referred to him, he works closely with officials from Ramsey County welfare department and from Cambridge.

About ten staff members will be hired, Kastrul said, two of them full time. "I've already received inquiries from some highly qualified people," he said.

Kastrul is also busy preparing the house for its new residents, doing internal work to "meet different regulations, to maximize existing space and to make it feel like home."

He said he welcomes questions and discussion with neighbors. "Anyone who is curious about what's going on or who wants to meet the people at any point, should feel free to give a call."

Kastrul has applied for a special condition use zoning permit for the house. Under St. Paul zoning code, this permit must be approved unless another community residential facility exists within 1320 feet of the house.

According to Patricia James of the St. Paul Zoning Office, records indicate there are no such facilities within the specified distance. (Commonwealth Nursing Home is not a community residential facility.) On Feb. 18, assuming no facilities are identified, the permit will be issued.

Lutheran Church offers refuge to Ethiopian family

by Diane Nelson

The government stormed the city and began burning homes, killing people and hauling others off to jail. The people didn't understand what was happening, but many, like Belay Kubrom, Mehretab, packed their families on camels and fled to the safety of a refugee camp in Sudan.

There was little food, no clothing and almost no work for the refugees at the camp. Kubrom and his family wanted to come to America but they couldn't leave until they had a sponsor.

Almost a year and a half later they received word that the St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church had agreed to sponsor them. They arrived two weeks before Christmas, with little else but the clothes on their backs and a hope for a new life.

The group responsible for giving Kubrom and families like his a new beginning is the Refugee Core Committee of the St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church.

The refugee committee originally was organized in 1979 to sponsor Vietnamese persons displaced by the Vietnam War. "We felt a responsibility for people who had been displaced by the war our country had a part in," said Mary Mergenthal, a refugee committee member and the former president of the congregation.

During the past 3½ years, the committee has successfully sponsored two Hmong families, two young Chinese men who lived in Cambodia and most recently Kubrom's family from Ethiopia.

The committee locates refugees through agencies, such as the Lutheran Social Service or the International Institute of Minnesota and brings them to St. Anthony Park. They provide the refugees with food, clothing and housing until the family can support themselves.

“Our aim,” says Mergenthal, “is to become increasingly less involved, although we do try to hang on as long as there is a need.”

Mergenthal said she couldn't count the hours that people have spent in making the program work. She said, "In the process, we've learned a lot about ourselves, and a lot about the values that we so easily translate to others."

According to Mergenthal, the easiest part of being a sponsor is raising money and finding furniture. The moral questions are more difficult.

"Which of our values do we impose upon the refugees?" Mergenthal said. "And which of our values do we impose upon them without even wanting to? Do we make everyone wear underwear? How often do we make them go to the dentist? Or to the doctor?"
Don’t forget to vote in District elections

Hazardous waste sites, parks and recreation plan, University of Minnesota busway, community gardens, housing for senior citizens, light rail transit for University Avenue, ranking of projects in St. Anthony Park submitted for Capital Improvement Budget monies—these are just some of the decisions affecting this community that will come before the District Council in 1983.

District Councils have gained increased respect and power within the St. Paul city government structure in the past six years. Residents need to be aware of this and to take part in the elections so that delegates represent all elements of the community.

Elections will be held:

NORTH ST. ANTHONY—Tuesday, Feb. 8, at 8 p.m. at United Church of Christ, Chelmsford & Commonwealth.

SOUTH ST. ANTHONY—Wednesday, Feb. 16, 7:30 p.m. at the District 12 office, 2380 Hampden.

Five delegates and two alternates are elected in each location. All legal residents of St. Anthony Park (District 12) are eligible to vote. The dividing line between north and south St. Anthony Park is Kasota Avenue.

District 12’s energy auditors are reducing the backlog of requests for home energy audits. Now is a good time to request yours.

Energy Audit Request
Name ____________________________
Address ____________________________
Phone Number ____________________________
Mail to: District 12 Community Council
2380 Hampden Avenue
St. Paul, Minnesota 55114

District 12 to receive AIA Community Award

District 12 Community Council will receive an award from the St. Paul chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) on Jan. 27 in recognition of its “continuing efforts to enhance, beautify, and preserve the community.”

Chapter president Darrel Carlson will present the framed certificate to Sherman Eagles, co-chair of the Council at an AIA meeting in Baker Court.

This is the third award for community Betterment that the St. Paul chapter has given. The membership nominates candidates to the awards committee, which makes the selection. Awards Committee chair Craig Rafferty said that District 12 was selected because of a number of good architectural projects that have been added to the community in recent years.

He cited Baker Court, St. Anthony Greens, Hampden Square and the South St. Anthony Recreation Center as examples where the District 12 Council demanded and got quality projects.

Weatherization Project Block 3 co-capitians Barb Rowe (left) and Cathy Furry accept a $250 check from Greg Haley, District 12, and Steve Wellington, St. Anthony Park Association, for their block’s achievement in completing an agreed-upon level of weatherization work. Each of the four blocks in the District 12 Weatherization Project will receive $250. Bobbi Megard and Jean Rustansola were unable to be present to accept checks for their blocks. Rowe and Furry’s block voted to contribute the $250 to the Arts Forum and the Library Association. The project was funded by grants from St. Paul Foundation, Northwestern Bank and St. Anthony Park Bank.

Group purchase of weatherization materials can be arranged for residents who have had the District 12 energy audits. Materials such as caulking, weather-stripping and headboard can be purchased at discount.

Contact the District 12 Office, 646-8884. Materials can only be purchased in quantity.

High pressure steam line planned for Midway plant

A high-pressure steam line that follows the Milwaukee railroad right of way from NSP’s High Bridge plant to Champion International’s Midway plant will be completed in 1983. The $40 million project will provide steam power in place of the natural gas and oil now used.

Champion and NSP have begun to secure the necessary permits from the city of St. Paul and have contacted the District Councils along the route to inform them of their plans. Because Champion is a unique customer for high-pressure, high-temperature steam for use in the papermaking process, the line will not serve other customers along its route.

Citizens ask: Are street assessments just the ‘nose of the camel’?

The public meeting on street assessments, held on Jan. 12, generated lots of questions and information but little heat.

Residents at the meeting were generally restrained in their statements and questions to Councilman Robert Fletcher, Director of the Budget Greg Blees, and Director of Public Works Donald Nygaard.

Approximately 60 people were present at the meeting co-sponsored by District 12 and the Merriam Park Community Council.

District 12 resident Quentin Elliott said that he was pleased with the amount of information he received and the perspective he gained on the impact that state and federal cuts have had on the city budget.

For example, residents asked why City Council does not levy a payroll or wheedle tax so that people working in St. Paul help pay for the services they use. Fletcher said that the City cannot levy these taxes without authority from the Legislature.

Nygaard stated his firm belief that assessments are the way to fund street maintenance and plowing because then residents know exactly what they are getting for their dollar. It is not hidden in the general tax levy. He believes his department is increasing its efficiency and he continues to look at alternatives. A pilot project in contracting with a private firm to do snow removal is underway this year.

Fletcher disagreed with Nygaard’s belief in assessments. He indicated that City Council is continuing to look at different sources of funds in order to lower or remove the plowing assessments. Fletcher also said that City Council cannot tell departments how to spend the money within their budgets. Council can only allocate the total amount of the department budget.

Blees reminded residents that only 25 cents of each tax dollar goes to St. Paul. The rest goes to fund the school district and Ramsey County. He also said that one-third of the City’s General Fund comes from property taxes, one-third comes from state aids, and one third from miscellaneous revenues.

Residents’ outlook on the whole question of assessments was perhaps best expressed by one woman who asked, “Is this the nose of the camel coming under the tent?”

CIB proposals due Feb. 8

Projects for funding from St. Paul Capital Improvement Budget (CIB) monies will be forwarded to the St. Paul CIB Committee from District 12 in mid-February. Residents with project proposals should contact the Council office (646-8884) before the Feb. 8 District Council meeting. Proposals can be for either 1984 or 1985 funding. Projects such as street repaving or park improvements are eligible for funding.
Seminary Women’s Center challenging tradition; studying sexism, new women’s roles in church

by Mary Winget

Twelve years ago the first female Lutheran minister was ordained. Six years ago the first women students entered Luther Northwestern Theological Seminary in St. Anthony Park.

The entry of women into what has been for centuries a man’s field has raised new issues and challenged traditional patterns of thought in the church and at the seminary. One way Luther Northwestern has tried to face this challenge is through its Women’s Center.

According to the center’s two coordinators, Judy Anderson-Bauer and Katherine Dutton, both second-year students, the center’s purpose is to address the issues raised by the changing role of women in the church and to prepare women seminarians for what they may face after they leave the seminary and move on to a parish.

Anderson-Bauer and Dutton agree that sexism is a minority at the seminary, “or at least not very vocal.” Nevertheless, they believe, “Addressing the problem and dealing with it, no matter what side you’re on, is very important.”

“Sexism is often a hidden problem,” Dutton said, “with people not saying anything or not facing the issues but then going on to parishes carrying the same old problems with them.”

Anderson-Bauer noted that “There is a failure to see it (sexism) as an ‘urgent’ issue at the seminary, but it can be a big problem when a woman leaves the seminary to go on her third-year internship. They’re not prepared for what they’re up against.”

For many people, the traditional definition of what a pastor should be like still prevails. “The pastor has always been male, as has been people’s image of God,” Dutton explained. “The pastor has been viewed as God on earth, and if the pastor is speaking the word of God, how can it be in a woman’s voice?”

Anderson-Bauer commented that, “If anything comes out of having women in the ministry it should be see the pastor as human. Until now, there were men, women and pastors on this earth.”

She added, “Opposition in a parish often comes from women who feel they have much invested in the status quo. Sometimes they are the most bitter people against women in the ministry.”

When a church gets a woman pastor, there can be problems with its traditional structure. “Often, there are specific roles a pastor’s wife is expected to fill,” Anderson-Bauer noted. “If the pastor is a single woman, she’s frequently expected to fill these roles as well as perform her pastoral duties. If she’s married, her husband may not want or be able to play that sort of role.”

Having a female pastor, however, can also help change a congregation’s perceptions. “Having role models, seeing a woman preach every week, has made a big difference,” Dutton said. “Before, we wondered what a woman preacher would look like or be like. Now we have people to look toward.”

In addition, many women in a parish respond favorably to a female pastor because she is someone they can relate to, Dutton added.

The changing role of women in the ministry is an issue for men, too. In response, the Women’s Center has helped a men’s support group form and has offered workshops for husbands of seminarians as well as workshops on communication among couples.

The problem of language, in both church literature and daily speech, is one addressed by the Women’s Center, Dutton said.

“It’s a problem even among professors who recognize the feminine aspect of the Deity. Although it’s comfortable here because it’s so supportive, we know we can’t walk out of here into a congregation and start praying to Mother God. The change has to be gradual.”

Advocating for changes in language is not easy, Anderson-Bauer noted. “It’s hard, when you go to a pastor’s conference and you’re the only woman in the room, to stand up and raise the language issue and be taken seriously. You want to maintain your sense of humor but you want to have your concerns taken seriously too. At least now there are more men who are understanding and supporting these issues.”

The Women’s Center also sponsors casual lunch gatherings which may include a speaker or just an opportunity to chat with a guest lecturer. Many of the speakers are senior women who have completed their third-year internships away from the seminary and can share their experiences.

The Women’s Center has become a place for sensitizing the entire seminary community as to what it’s like to be a woman in the ministry. Since few precedents exist, many questions are being raised, and the Center is a place to focus on those issues.

Women at the Center try not to take a particular stand but, rather, to allow discussion about all positions. “We feel that these issues will be raised whether we’re here or not, and we want them raised in a fostering atmosphere. We try to bridge gaps through discussion,” Anderson-Bauer explained.

They’re making progress. Only six women were in the first coed graduating class; now 22% of the Luther Northwestern undergraduates are women. Two full-time and one part-time member of the faculty are women, and Kathy Sukke, Assistant Dean of Students, was a member of that very first graduating class.

Both Dutton and Anderson-Bauer agreed that there’s much more acceptance now. “There are more joys than sorrows now, and you no longer get asked if you’re here to find a husband. And we know ye have heard plenty about the new accounts made possible by a change in banking regulations. To simplify things, here’s our two “sense” worth: 1) It makes sense to ask about our new Insured High Yield Fund. It’s a savings account that offers high, money market rates plus it’s insured by the federal government and you don’t need to send your funds off to another city. They stay right here in your own neighborhood. 2) It makes sense to get details on our Super Now Checking Account that lets your funds earn high interest while you write checks against the balance. The minimum balance requirement on these two new accounts is $2,500.

the IRA tie-in

You can open your 1982 IRA, and get a tax break, up to April 15th. And you’ll want to make your 1985 IRA contribution soon so your funds can start earning interest for you. It’s possible to tie these investments into our new Insured High Yield Fund, an account that earns high money market rates. Ask our personal bankers; they have IRA Know-How. Or call the Hotline at 647-8030.

music in the park

Bask in the warmth of beautiful music at another at the St. Anthony Park Concert Series on Sunday, February 27th at 4 p.m. at United Church of Christ. The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra will perform with featured artists Kathy Kienzle, on harp and Christopher Brown on double bass. Tickets, available at Micawber’s Book Store and the Biblet Shop, are $5.50 and $4. A beautiful way to spend a wintry Sunday afternoon.

you’re invited

Join us on Tuesday, February 22nd from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at our drive-in center for a President’s Day Celebration. We’ll be serving coffee and cake and our own president, Andy Ross, will be on hand. Stop in, won’t you?

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Editorial

Making friends with cable

In today's technological jargon, a piece of equipment or a computer program is "user-friendly" if the average person can learn to use it fairly easily. That notion can be applied in a similar way to St. Paul's eventual cable TV system.

The enormous potential offered by cable technology has been described in this month's Bugle and in previous issues. One of the most important implications of cable TV is its capacity for a broad range of community-access programming, programming by the community for the community.

We must commit ourselves to taking an active role in the development of a meaningful community-access scheme for whatever cable system is approved. Now is the time to start talking among ourselves to determine what kind of local programming we would like to see on cable.

Would we like to see District 12 Council sessions televised? How about a weekly Bugle program? Shows? Music in the Park concerts be shown on cable TV? Readings by local writers? Sports reports from the recreation centers? School events? St Anthony Park Association meetings? The possibilities are endless, limited only by the extent of our energy and our willingness to work together.

In St. Anthony Park, we should organize a meeting or series of meetings where these issues can be discussed in detail and where a coherent plan for community access can be developed.

The key to a user-friendly community-access scheme, that is, one that serves the needs of its subscribers and one that is accessible to them, is cooperation. We need to provide for a wide range of expression so that the community-access concept does not fragment into a forum for special interests.

Cable TV offers us the potential of new ways to communicate, to be creative, to promote diversity. Let's "make friends" with this piece of technology, and begin planning how to utilize cable's potential in our community.

Bugle Dates
Staff meeting, Feb. 1, 6:30 p.m., 2380 Hampden.
Park Press Board of Directors, Feb. 2, 6:30 p.m., Healey Building.
Deadline for display ads, Feb. 10.
March Bugle published, Feb. 23.

Self-reliant city needs citizen input

By Ann Copeland

Ann Copeland is the District 12 Community Organizer. This article is reprinted with permission from the St. Paul Pioneer Press, where it appeared Dec. 20, 1982.

St. Paul city government is beginning a 90-degree turn in its method of management and service delivery with the innovations proposed in Mayor Limer's State of the City address. St. Paul citizens must be in a

The mayor defines a self-reliant city as one with a strong sense of local community, a financially stable government and an independent, growing local economy. To accomplish this he is proposing major changes in the way citizens relate to city government and receive and use services. City government is to become more flexible, more self-supporting, more responsive. There will be a major emphasis on economic development in St. Paul.

The program has a number of positive aspects that should be commended. In theory it involves people in their destiny. It offers an exciting vision of neighborhood being provided city help, not hindrances, for the implementation of ideas to better people's lives. It gives neighborhoods a choice in the services they receive and pay for. It encourages and rewards innovation by city employees and community groups. It works for economic stability.

However, it also raises questions to which St. Paul citizens need answers. This system needs, in fact demands, involvement of people—in making choices, working on neighborhood projects, dealing with city government. Can someone working two jobs or spending all day looking for a job, coping with a family and the rest of life's cares, have the necessary energy or time to spend on community self-reliance?

Through district councils and other neighborhood groups, many of St. Paul's residents are already used to making decisions, implementing projects and dealing with the city. These groups are more or less effective depending on citizen time, interest and ability. Does the implementation of this system create a situation where those who are well organized and know what to ask for improve their areas of the city even more? Do the others fall further behind in having the extra that enhance a neighborhood? Instead of causing a neighborhood to pull together, will the new system create tensions within a neighborhood by dividing citizens over whether to fund parking enforcement, a recreation center or a library?

The creation of revenue centers is proposed to cover services according to market demand. The self-supporting nature of those means that they respond to people who are willing/able to pay. A safeguard system would be instituted to provide vouchers or lines of credit for low-income people so they too can choose. Will that solve the problem for them? It is easier to drive to the center and pull money out of a pocket to pay for ice time to play hockey than to stand in line for a voucher and then take the bus to the center. A ticket, a stick, and a game in the street is the easier solution for both child and parent.

The speed with which this whole innovative process is moving is another cause for concern and citizen awareness. St. Paul is using money from HUD and foundations to hire the Rand Corporation to develop an analysis of St. Paul's costs of government and a forecast of future available funding. Rand is also to design the institution necessary to bring about the "new St. Paul." It will develop criteria for grouping services in revenue centers. But it is important that running those and demand for their services. A pilot revenue center is to be tried.

It is understandable that because this is the mayor's proposal, he wants it to happen within his term of office. However, that dictates that it move at the speed of light compared to most innovative processes, particularly where government is concerned. Given that speed, citizens must immediately become involved in asking questions, being aware of decisions to be made, and demanding to be part of the process.

Involving citizens takes time. It can mean frustration for both citizens and government officials. But the resulting product is truly owned by those involved and then they have a stake in making it work. The challenge will be to have people see that there will be a direct pay back for their own lives. Then they will be willing to get involved. This is particularly true for low income groups in St. Paul who are not now involved in city decision making. It will take time and effort on the part of the city and other neighborhood groups to teach these people to work and demand to be part of the process.

Given these concerns, however, the mayor's proposal should be seriously reviewed, hammered and shaped by St. Paul citizens. Old systems of funding and city management work and are obviously in trouble. This new idea is worth trying. If it is not instituted permanently, let it be because the citizens have worked with it and decided they didn't like it. If it comes into being, it should be with good citizen support because all elements of this city have been part of the process. Nothing would be worse than to let this innovative idea blaze up briefly and then spatter away like a damp sparkler.

Thank you!

Thanks to the generous support of its readers, the Bugle has achieved its 1982 fund drive goal of $7,000!

Contributions from more than 300 individuals and businesses reached slightly more than $5,000. Added to this was a $2,000 gift from an anonymous donor who had promised his contribution if the Bugle could attract $5,000 in other contributions.

Our sincere thanks to all who helped make our fund drive a success.

Bugle Board of Directors and Staff

The Bugle's purpose is to provide a medium for exchange of information, ideas and opinions in the community

Opinions and commentary by readers are welcome and may be submitted as letters to the editor as guest columns. Letters must be signed and should not exceed 200 words. Readers wishing to submit guest columns are asked to contact the editor.

Opinions expressed in the Bugle by the editor, co-managers and contributors do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Board of Directors, Park Press, Inc.

Send all materials to the Bugle Editor, 2380 Hampden St., St. Paul 55114.
Quality time

By James Wesley Brogan

I notice from reading the papers recently that parents, and the social theorists and psychopathologists who study them, have discovered something called "quality time." Apparently, in the business of child-rearing, time can be divided into two different sorts, one called "quality," the other not named, but assumed to be a lesser variety.

Parents thus have two kinds of time they can spend with their children. They can give them their full attention (and use the hours of their bodies) for an hour, say, or they can try to read the newspaper during that hour, and let the kids entertain themselves.

In the one case, you're putting the kids first. That's great, say the theorists. That's good time, quality stuff. In the other case, you're putting yourself first. That's not good. It's low class, it's low quality, and as a parent, you get an F. Why should you get to read the newspaper when all the other parents on the block are rubbering their faces on the floor trying to dig toys out from under the sofa?

I imagine that the idea of quality time originated from the situation—more and more common these days—where both parents are working and neither is able to spend the entire day with the kids. Without question the quantity of time has been cut down, and so it is necessary for family scientists to find a way for parents to make up for it. Obligingly, they came up with the idea that one quality hour is worth X-number of the other kind.

In the short time between four and six in the afternoon, they reason, you can make up for the entire day you missed at home. And if you're really strong, if you get down and play horse for all you're worth, a mere 60 to 90 minutes can make up for a week of neglect, or even, in rare cases, borderline child abuse.

The problem is, quality time is not always available just because the parent would like to have some. In my own experience, I have found that some of my worst times have occurred when I was trying hardest to be a good parent. Much of it is my own fault, I suppose. I've finished reading the Sunday paper, the football game hasn't started yet, and I am eager to get the quality time out of the way while there is nothing better to do.

And certainly the kids don't always cooperate. I can be as good as I want, but if they're not in the right mood, it's all wasted effort. If they want to throw a tantrum, or break a window, or get into a screaming fight with each other they can drive the quality level down below zero whether I'm on my good behavior or not.

In fact, I often suspect that quality time is a catch-22 situation. You are supposed to spend it with your kids, but as soon as you make the effort, it disappears. Let's be honest. Quality time usually comes down to a few hours away when the kids are asleep, or home when you're not. And (this is amusing) playing quietly by themselves and leaving you out of it.

So with quality time as rare as it is, my question becomes, why waste it on your children? Sneak off with it, that's my advice. Hide it. Keep it to yourself. Don't let them know you're having any.

Burnham fights chestnut blight

By Kathy Berg

Charles R. Burnham, professor emeritus at the University of Minnesota, may have retired 10 years ago, but he continues his research at the Agronomy and Plant Genetics department on the St. Paul campus.

A resident of St. Anthony Park for 40 years, Burnham specializes in plant breeding and genetics research. For the past two years, he has focused much of his attention on the American chestnut tree, which is almost extinct because of the blight that was first noticed in New York in 1904.

Presently there are no blight resistant American chestnuts in the United States but there are some survivors that may contain blight resistant genes.

Most of Burnham's research has been with corn, but two years ago when he read a publication by Frank Kaufert, Burnham's interest was directed toward the American chestnut. He had seen trees killed by the blight when he lived and taught in West Virginia. He wondered why the breeding programs at the U.S. Department of Agriculture had not produced a blight resistant Ameri-
Murray News:

Annual expo, Isabella plans, sports

The fifth annual Winter Exposition at Murray Magnet Junior High is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 17, at 7:15 p.m. Following a short program in the auditorium, visitors will tour the building to see student displays and demonstrations.

Everyone in the community is welcome, with a special invitation to sixth-graders and their parents, to see a sampling of life at the junior high.

A meeting for Murray students going to the Environmental Learning Center near Isabella will be held at the school on Tuesday, Feb. 1, at 7:30 p.m. Parents are encouraged to come to learn about the plans for the upcoming trip and to help their children choose classes for study at the center.

The junior high's wrestling team, coached by Roy Magnuson, is close to capturing a second straight city title. At press time, only one dual meet and the city meet remained on the schedule.

Computers were the attraction at Murray Junior High School Jan. 19, and some 250 people came to look and learn. Students demonstrated how they use computers in school, while computer salespeople demonstrated their latest equipment. There was even a small computer-operated robot. In the photo left, Cullen (left) and Jim Barker experiment on one of Murray's computers. In the photo above, Mike Mackey, a salesman, Tom Benson, Regis Fan, David Fan and Denis Ormseth (l. to r.) discuss the merits of a new keyboard. Photos by Jon Maiberg.

NIGHT CLINIC

Tuesdays, Thursdays till 8 pm

Our doctors take 24 hour calls and hospitalize patients at nearby hospitals. Services include family and adult medicine, women's health and psychologic counseling. Evening clinics, scheduled house calls to seniors, a patient library and health education classes speak for our commitment to the people-centered practice of medicine.

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Tues., Thurs. 12:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Tim Rumsey, M.D., Family Practice
Richard Gordon, M.D., Family Practice
James Barker, M.D., Internal Medicine
Norman Silverberg, Ph.D., Psychology

DOCTORS

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(Phone answered 24 hours a day)
Block nurses seek block companions, volunteer visitors
by Marge Jamison
At present three block nurses in St. Anthony Park are caring for around 25 elderly people, as part of the community’s block nurse program.

Sometimes, the nurses have found the people they work with may also benefit from assistance that is not nursing care in order to be able to live comfortably in their own home. They may need help with getting their laundry done, for example, or assistance with a shampoo, with grocery shopping or with snow shoveling. And some may want someone to talk with.

For this reason, the block nurse program is looking for people to assist them in their service to elderly people.

The block nurse program is seeking persons interested in becoming “block companions.” This would be a paid position and would require certification as a home health aide. (Certification for this can be obtained through completion of a six-week TVI course.)

Block companions would be hired to do all sorts of things, such as helping people bathe, mopping up the floor, doing the laundry, preparing a meal, finding someone to cut the grass, or running necessary errands.

Block companions must live in St. Anthony Park and must be willing if necessary, to make a long-term commitment to their clients.

The block nurse will coordinate the efforts of block companions, to ensure a comprehensive approach with continuity of care.

People who might be interested in being block companions could be nurses who haven’t practiced for awhile but who would find this interesting (and perhaps a road back into nursing), people with nursing assistant or homemaker/caregiver aide certificates, or people who would be willing to become certified.

Part-time work is available immediately, and as the program grows, more will be needed. A classified ad in this issue of the Bugle has more specific information.

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Looking at cable television from behind the camera

by Jim Brogan

In examining the development of cable TV in St. Paul, the Bugle has considered the political and community dimension. But as the community begins to think about actually making use of cable, questions about the artistic and cultural matter of program production become important. What does it take to put together a half-hour of television? And what will be the impact of cable on people who want to become TV producers?

The answers to these questions depend on what the individual producers desire from the system and what they are willing to invest in terms of time, effort and personal expense.

The mechanism of public access should guarantee everyone a basic minimum of equipment, training and studio time, as well as a slot in the schedule for any program that results. Beyond this minimum level of assistance, however, producers will be on their own, and programs can be expected to vary widely, not only in subject matter and point of view, but also in technical and artistic quality.

The range of possibility is suggested by the contrasting experience of two people in the area who have been involved for several years in TV production outside the commercial broadcast media.

One is Will Loew-Blosser, public access coordinator for cable TV in Anoka County, where channel 12 in Fridley has been operating since 1974. The other is Mike Hazard, former Bugle editor and a St. Paul artist who has collaborated on several independent TV productions, one of which, a profile of Robert Bly, was taped in part in the old Muskego Church on the grounds of Luther Northwestern Seminary.

Loew-Blosser began as an artist in the medium of film and video, approaching it, he remembers, as a "visual canvas," a stream of beautiful pictures. Since taking his degree in filmmaking from the San Francisco Arts Institute, however, he has gravitated away from the emphasis on artistry toward a more down-to-earth concern with TV as a means of communication and public service.

"Most of the arts," he explains, "are far too esoteric to be appreciated by the general public." He is now more interested, he says, "in dealing with the problems of people's lives—and contributing to solutions."

In his capacity as coordinator for the Anoka County Communications Workshop, Loew-Blosser teaches a four-hour course once a week to familiarize interested people with television equipment and production techniques. He claims that after one session they know enough to be able to put a program together, though it might not meet the more exacting standards required for commercial broadcast.

The idea behind the cable system in Fridley is to get as many people involved in programming as possible and not to worry about the extent to which their efforts conform to arbitrary technical and artistic standards. Loew-Blosser notes that the system in Fridley somewhat proudly refers to itself as "Everybody's TV: Channel 12."

The emphasis is deliberately local, in other words, to make up for perceived gaps in coverage by the major media. As Loew-Blosser points out, "You rarely find out what is going on in your local community through the mass media."

Consequently, channel 12 receives itself as an agent of democracy, allowing citizens a public meeting place or free speech forum in which everyone may participate.

"We welcome discussion on all topics," Loew-Blosser says, mentioning news, religion, cultural and civic affairs and public policy as examples. In addition, channel 12 features a regular schedule of programs which include everything from high school volleyball to guest speakers at the Rotary club.

"The key to our programming is diversity," he says.

The usual format is a talk show, and Loew-Blosser admits that from an artistic point of view, many of the shows may leave something to be desired. On the other hand, high quality work is encouraged, if people want to take the trouble.

"We are here to assist and facilitate (the producers)," Loew-Blosser emphasizes. "It's their decision what the content will be and how much time they want to put in."

"We are like a paper and pen," he continues, "only more elaborate. Some people produce very high quality things. Others don't, but they do accomplish their purpose."

In Loew-Blosser's opinion, one of the virtues of cable technology is that it makes television possible on a small scale.

"Since we don't have a problem with space," he says, "if you program serves even ten people, it's useful. On the local level the narrowcast concept is a good one."

Mike Hazard agrees that cable TV does offer encouragement to the independent TV producer. Without it, he believes, there is virtually no way to get your work telecast.

"There are two ways to get on commercial TV," says Hazard. "1) You can shoot somebody, and 2) you can make a 30-second public service announcement."

By comparison, cable TV is a wonderland of opportunity. Nevertheless, Hazard remains unconvinced that cable will effect any profound changes in television as we know it.

To an extent, he says, "It is a pie-in-the-sky promotion, because even though the technology of production is simpler and more available, and even though there are far more channels available, television is an arcane art. People will learn how difficult it is. You can't throw together a TV program."

As an example, he mentions that one of his recent collaborations, a profile of the poet Tom McGrath (aired on KTCO) cost $25,000 and took 2 1/2 years to produce. And even these figures fail to tell the whole story because they do not include materials and equipment which had to be begged or borrowed, nor do they indicate the special arrangements, such as the trading of resources, necessary to the completion of the project.

There is a discrepancy, in other words, between the promise of public access and the requirements of producing a first-rate TV program.

Though it is true that virtually anyone with a few hours' training can put together a half-hour of some kind using the resources available from the cable company, this only serves to point out the difference in quality between one sort of TV production and another.

To come up with what Hazard calls "a basic, broadcast quality product" is a major undertaking.

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Despite new changes, state tax form still confusing say local tax preparers

by Diane Dubay

The new Minnesota tax form for singles (M1A) and the 1040EZ and 1040A federal forms may be refreshingly simple forms for taxpayers who use them, but area tax preparers and volunteer counselors don't speak fondly of Minnesota's individual income tax form.

St. Anthony Park resident Joe Skovholt, a member of the Governor's committee appointed last year to design the new M1A form and long-time volunteer tax counselor, said that he hopes the Minnesota Legislature will now also change the Minnesota income tax form.

"The Minnesota form is more complicated than the federal form," he said.

Skovholt's view is shared by other area residents who help people prepare their tax forms.

"There were a lot of places in the forms where deductions can be made that can then be added back on again in another place," he said.

Lauderdale resident Yutaka Samba, a newly IRS tax examiner who conducted a training workshop for volunteers, agreed that the Minnesota form was difficult.

He praised the volunteers who were willing to help senior citizens and the poor who might encounter problems with it and other tax forms.

Tom Hansen, a St. Anthony Park area tax accountant, blamed a tremendous amount of legislative activity for form changes this year at both federal and state level.

"There was actually a bill introduced to stop all revenue legislation in order to sort out what had happened," he said.

Hansen said that many individuals will encounter no problems with federal form 1040EZ or 1040A because they are easy forms to complete.

Hansen, and most other professional tax preparers, admit to working 60 to 80 hours a week right up to filing deadline. Right after the deadline, Hansen vacations, usually in Disneyland, where, he says, all the other vacationers are also tax accountants.

TCE and VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) counselors make four-hour per week commitments of free assistance to the elderly, poor and special groups of people.

Edgar Williams, coordinator for the TCE and VITA programs, said that volunteers like Samba, Rydberg, Skovholt and another Falcon Heights resident, Lloyd Jacobson, provide a valuable service to other citizens.

Williams said that more retired people are filing returns because higher interest rates have put them back in a bracket that requires them to file.

"It's getting busier all the time," he said.

TCE volunteer Skovholt has served as a volunteer for a longer period of time and because of his level of expertise, he attends only one-day training workshops to become familiar with changes in the tax forms.

TCE and VITA assistance is available to those 60 years older and to low-income groups from Feb. 1 through April 5 in various community centers in the metropolitan area.

Area seniors and low-income individuals may consult TCE and VITA tax counselors at the Roseville Library, 2180 N. Hamline Ave., Roseville, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at Fairview Community Center, 1910 W. County Road B from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays; at Jehovah Lutheran Church, 1566 Thomas Ave., from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, and at the St. Anthony Park Community Center, 200 S. St. Anthony Ave., from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Correction

The children whose definitions of winter were quoted in the January, 1983 Bugle attend the Community Child Care Center, not University Cooperative Playcenter.

SAPA Board to Meet

SAPA Board Members will meet on Feb. 1, at the home of Sue Stegmeir, 2334 Buford Ave. at 7:30 p.m.

Rec Center News

Registration for floor hockey, volleyball and newcomers will begin the week of Feb. 1, and will close Feb. 18. Young people, 12th grade and under may sign up for volleyball and floor hockey. Newcomers is open to juniors in 12th grade and under. Teams will begin games about March 1. Call Langford (645-9293) or South St. Anthony Rec Center (644-9188) for details.

February Events at SPCSC

The St. Paul Campus Student Center will offer the following activities in February:

- WEEKEND FILM SERIES - Friday and Saturday, 7:30 p.m. and 9:45 p.m.; $2.50 non-student
- Feb. 4-5: Raiders of the Lost Ark
- Feb. 11-12: The World According to GAR
- FREE Wednesday noon film
- MONDAY NIGHTS: “Books and Beverages”

(Books Reviews), FREE
- Feb. 7-12: China Week
- Feb. 10: Photography Lecture R. Heinecker: 8 p.m. Theater
- GALERIES: Color and Movement, Theater Design, Hooked Rugs
- Call 373-1021 for more information.
Construction proceeds on Energy Park development

St. Paul’s Energy Park development, located between Snelling and Lexington avenues, has moved well beyond the planning stages.

Construction of the central heating plant, just east of Snelling, is largely complete. In addition, as the photographs indicate, work is proceeding rapidly on an energy technology center, more than 1000 housing units, and a multi-purpose commercial development called Bandana Square, to be located in some rehabilitated railroad buildings (photo above). Photos by Jim Brogan.

ETHIOPIANS continued from page 1

The real danger, she says, “is being too paternal. How do we let them call the shots as much as they can, but still be there to help?”

Dealing with difficult questions, however, hasn’t stopped the committee from getting involved or taking on the challenges of sponsoring a new family.

Kubrom and his family came from the small Ethiopian province of Eritrea, where he worked as a shopkeeper in a store selling Bridgestone tires. His wife, Lemien Haile Lifsa, worked as an optometrist’s assistant. According to Howard Weiss, the chairman of the refugee committee, the family was not well off, and they were subjected to constant oppression by the Ethiopian government.

However, Weiss said, people in the United States don’t understand what’s going on in Ethiopia because “there are no published accounts of what is happening.”

Because of the threat of government oppression, Kubrom and his family feared for their lives, and they decided to flee to the refugee camp in the Sudan, where they waited to come to the United States. Other Eritrean refugees went to countries like Saudi Arabia, Kubrom said, but added, “I prefer America.”

Kubrom’s American home is modestly furnished with odds and ends collected by the refugee committee. It’s comfortable and clean and he said he is proud of it.
"They have like this in Ethiopia," commented Kubrom gesturing toward the TV and chairs, "but they have not money." Kubrom said that in Ethiopia TVs and cars are for the very rich.

"Here," he smiled "it is good for all persons." Kubrom is currently enrolled in a work incentive program with Ramsey County and is taking English classes at Pratt School. When his English is good enough he will begin working on his G.E.D.

Meanwhile, the committee will be working with programs like the Lutheran Social Services, Rise program and a HUD program to find Kubrom a job.

"We try to keep him informed by telling him that it But, he said, "The family faces the future hopefully and thankfully and is willing to put forth all the effort it takes to make it in the United States."

The spark of hope in the eyes of people like Kubrom makes it worthwhile for the Refugee Core Committee to bring people to this country and give them a new shot at life, Mergenthal said.

"You always feel good about helping someone," she said. "But the biggest reward is the feeling of saving someone from a life or death situation and being able to offer a real dramatic hope to someone who doesn't have that in his own country."
Peace Institute opened by Park anti-nuke groups

by Richard Bale

The grass roots peace movement in St. Anthony Park has found a home with the recent opening of the Peace Institute.

Sponsored by St. Anthony Park Neighbors for Peace, Women Against Military Madness (WAMM), Luther Northwestern Seminary staff and students, the Institute is located in Aasgaard Hall on the seminary campus.

It will provide office space and allow Neighbors For Peace, WAMM and other groups to coordinate and expand their efforts toward mustering public opposition to nuclear arms.

The institute represents the latest step in the growth of the peace movement in St. Anthony Park. A year ago Neighbors For Peace held its first meeting with four people at the home of Robert and Joan Jones. The group's mailing list now numbers 140.

Last April, Neighbors for Peace coordinated 80 people conducting a door-to-door petition drive as part of the national campaign to end nuclear testing. They collected 3,500 signatures from the St. Anthony Park area alone.

In early December, Loren Abraham and other Neighbors for Peace members decided to try to place an anti-MX advertisement in the St. Paul Pioneer Press and Dispatch. They began calling neighbors.

"The support was incredible," Abraham said. "People were very willing to contribute and also to seek contributions from their friends."

In three days they collected over $1,600, with pledges for an additional $400. An ad bearing several hundred names, most of them local residents, appeared in the two St. Paul newspapers on December 2 and 3.

"This movement is very much a grass roots movement," Abraham said.

Betty Ellis, St. Anthony Park resident and a Neighbors For Peace member, says that the idea behind grass roots organizing is very basic.

"We are neighbors. That, after all, is what grass roots means. You start with who you are and where you are."

For many people in the movement, their activism is a personal thing. "I couldn't stand to look at my children and know that I was not doing anything to prevent the possibility of nuclear war," said Ann-Liv Bacon, also a member of Neighbors for Peace.

"There comes a time in people's lives when you want to make a difference. Personally, I feel my life is better for it," Bacon said.

Pointing to the recent rejection by the U.S. House of Representatives of funding for the controversial MX missile, Joyce Pusch said "I think we played a part in that. People should believe they can influence the system."

Influencing the system can require patience, and working with neighborhoods to build public opinion takes time. Sometimes the hard work pays off later, sometimes not at all.

Polly Mann of WAMM explained, "In this kind of work, if you're looking for absolutely defined goals, you might get discouraged. To affect people and effect change, we work very hard."

Dr. Lloyd Svendsby, director of Luther Northwestern Theological Seminary, decided last December to give the office space to the peace groups.

"It will allow various groups in the Park who are working separately on peace issues to come together," he said. "There are a large number of people of good will in the Park who are deeply concerned about the preservation of this planet Earth."

Even before the Peace Institute officially opened Jan. 20, it was the site of a major event, the annual conference of WAMM, held Jan. 15 with about 300 women attending.

Abraham was an observer at the...
News Notes

Music in the Park

"Music for Harp and Double Bass," a new work composed by Christopher Brown, principal bass with the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, will premiere at the third concert in the Music in the Park Series on Feb. 27, 4 p.m. at the St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ, 2129 Commonwealth Ave. Brown and harpist Kathy Kienzle, who will perform the work, will also play six "Rumanian Folk Dances" by Bartok.

The concert, sponsored by the St. Anthony Park Arts Forum and COMPAS, is partially funded by a grant from the Metropolitan Council Regional Arts Council. Tickets are available at Micawber's Bookstore, the Bibe lot Shop and at the door.

Old timers dinner

The South St. Anthony Park Old Timers are sponsoring an Old Timers dinner on Sunday, Feb. 6, at the Tjernlund Legion Hall, 2350 Territorial Road.

The buffet dinner, consisting of ham and beef, will be served from noon to 4:30 p.m. Vincent Sorg is catering the meal; tickets will cost $6 per person. The get-together will include door prizes and music.

All St. Anthony Park old timers are invited.

Writer's workshop

St. Anthony Park Arts Forum will sponsor three guest writers and critics to work with participants of the Writers' Workshop.

The guest writers-critics will meet with the Workshop on March 3, May 5 and July 7. Any writers who have wanted to read their work and have it responded to can take advantage of these special workshops.

DeBoer's novel published

Marjorie DeBoer, a St. Anthony Park resident for over 27 years, has published her first novel, "Crown of Desire." The paperback historical romance will be available locally after Feb. 1. The 500-page book tells the story of an aristocratic Writers of fiction, poetry and nonfiction are invited to meet with St. Anthony Park writers on the first Thursday of each month to read and to discuss their work.

Old time movies

The St. Anthony Park Library Association will present an evening of Old Time Movies on Thursday, Feb. 24 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the Community Interest Room of the Library, 2245 Como Ave.

Dr. Paul Murphy will play the piano to accompany the movies of Laurel and Hardy and the Lady Who Swallowed a Fly. Volunteers who serve the community by helping at the library will be honored by the Library Association at this event.

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2. REQUIRE REGULAR EXERCISE
   It is easy to become an "armchair captive" of the television set. This tendency toward physical inactivity can be overcome, however, by developing an interest and desire to be physically fit. An intelligent and fun exercise program is vital for good health.

3. PROVIDE A WELL BALANCED DIET
   Good nutrition provides the building blocks for every type of cell in our body. We all should stick more to the "basics", and keep the highly processed and highly refined foods to a minimum.

4. HAVE REGULAR HEALTH CHECK-UPS
   Spinal checks, with close attention to alignment and balance, will reveal body defects and distortions. These problems should be corrected before they lead to serious functional impairment.

5. SET A GOOD EXAMPLE YOURSELF
   Children learn by example. Establish a family program of healthful activities tailored to ages and abilities. This will help establish positive habits and gain the valuable rewards of physical fitness.
Emerald Street recycling center closes doors

by Richard Bale

The cost of maintaining the recycling-drop-off site used by some St. Anthony Park residents at Franklin Avenue and Emerald Street forced the Minneapolis Education Recycling Center (MERC) to close it on Jan. 1. According to Terry L. VanDerPol, director of MERC, "The Franklin and Emerald drop-offs had to be served often because the inside space was so limited." She said the frequent pickups were making the site more costly to run than larger outside drop-offs.

MERC is now looking for an outside site in that area of town. The added space of an outside drop-off would mean fewer pick-ups and may be cheaper to rent.

Any new site would need space for about 16 containers, said VanDerPol. She is also hoping for something in the area by University and 280 because that is where the old site did a lot of business.

MERC is a non-profit youth employment and education organization funded through United Way and private donations.

It operates other recycling drop-offs at the Seward Co-op, and at the North Country Co-op on Riverside Ave.

St. Anthony Park residents can use drop-off sites in the Park operated by Recycling Unlimited, Inc. One is at First Bank Security, 2183 University Ave., and another at St. Anthony Park Bank, 2300 Como Ave. Both drop-offs are only open the first and third Saturdays of every month, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

NURSE continued from page 7

In addition to block companions, the block nurse will utilize volunteer visitors. These persons will be retired St. Anthony Park residents who have experienced changes and adaptations in their own lives and thus are well equipped to talk with clients whose experiences are similar.

They will be available to visit with homebound patients while permitting spouses time away. They will serve in a variety of ways designed to enhance the independence of their clients.

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Good news for seniors in St. Paul, where it all began:

SHARE’s new Medical Center in St. Paul’s Energy Park becomes newest big reason to join SeniorCare now.

It was less than ten years ago that SHARE began in the heart of St. Paul’s Midway area – in the original St. Paul Medical Center at 555 Simpson Street.

Here, too, just five years later, SHARE turned SeniorCare from a dream into a reality. “The dream,” according to a SHARE spokesperson, “was to implement principles that we knew would offer our senior citizens a complete, quality health care program and still keep costs under control.”

The SeniorCare principles worked in practice. As a result, the SeniorCare membership grew by leaps and bounds. And, with great anticipation offset by a bit of the sadness that goes along with leaving the original family home, SHARE is about to take another giant step forward.

SHARE’s new Medical Center, scheduled to open this fall in the much publicized Energy Park, is less than a mile from the original SHARE Medical Center in Simpson Street. The new Medical Center is scheduled to open this fall.

SHARE’s exciting new home, the Energy Park Medical Center, is less than a mile from the original SHARE Medical Center on Simpson Street. The new Medical Center is scheduled to open this fall.

No rate increase in 1983 means even more good news for St. Paul seniors.

In addition to the good news about the new SHARE Medical Center in Energy Park, you may already know that SeniorCare has announced there’ll be no rate increase for 1983!

Complete SeniorCare coverage will continue to cost you just $19.75 per month when supplemental insurance plans now average more than $40 per month.

Also continuing in effect for 1983 is the SeniorCare money-back guarantee that refunds your first three month’s premium if you’re not satisfied.

Learn more by attending a SeniorCare Community Meeting. Call SHARE for a schedule of meetings near you.

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CABLE
continued from page 8
and he thinks people will find
that a four-hour workshop and
studio access will not be enough
to make bona fide TV producers
out of them.

This is not to say that television
programming is inherently a rich
man’s game, but Hazard notices
that for the most part it seems to
be. “It’s a top-down system,” he
says. “What money there is all
comes out of the networks.”

While it is true that at the other
end of things, at the grass roots,
there is a lot of activity among
people doing their best to pro-
duce TV programs, unfortunatel,
Hazard says, “there is no
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duce TV programs, unfortunatel,
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money at that level.”

“Cable as a delivery system has
great potential,” Hazard ac-
knowledges, “because it frees you
from many of the conventions.”

In commercial TV, for example,
he says, a show intended for a
half-hour slot must be exactly 27
minutes and 50 seconds long. A
one-hour show must last exactly
56 minutes and 50 seconds.

Cable TV makes no such rigid
demands. You can make a pro-
gram any length you want, on
any subject you want, in any way
you want.

“You don’t have to think of
mass-cast,” says Hazard. “And
that in itself is a tremendously
liberating notion.”

Coming at Como:
Winterfest, jazz,
semester finals
The Winterfest celebration at
Como Park Senior High will be
during the week of Feb. 14-18.

Beginning on Valentine’s Day,
when the APS Club will sell ca-
rations, and ending with the
Winterfest Ball Friday evening,
the week will feature a variety of
activities. There will be broom-
ball games between the classes,
snow sculpture contests, dress-
up days, hikes around Como
Lake and skating on the lake,
crowning of the Winterfest
royalty.

First semester at Como will end
Jan. 17 and the following day is
a teacher record day, with no
classes for the students. Report
cards with semester grades will
be mailed the second week in
February. Students and teachers
will have a long weekend to
commemorate Presidents’ Day
on Feb. 21.

The Como jazz band will give a
Pop Concert on Feb. 24 at 7:30
p.m. Admission is $1.50 for
adults and $1 for students.

Women voters meet
The St. Anthony Park-Como
League of Women Voters unit
will meet on Monday evening,
Feb. 21 in the home of Marlene
Krona, 1064 Mary Lane. The
topic will be the financing of city
government.

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USER FEES continued from page 1

"The choice is having no service or some service and paying for it a new way. You have to ask yourselves, would you rather pay for it or lose the service?"

Broeker explained that the fees also would enable the city to recover some of the costs of the services it provides to non-residents. He used the institution of an admission fee to visit Como Zoo as one example, pointing to the fact that 80% of the zoo’s visitors are non-residents.

Several questions remain to be resolved before this idea can be implemented, Broeker said. Assuming that the needs of poorer neighborhoods are adequately met and allowing for citizen participation in the distribution of services are two main problems.

"We haven’t worked out what will happen in a neighborhood when people want to pay for part of a service by offering volunteer help or if citizens want to run their own library or recreation center."

Reaction to Latimer’s ideas from St. Anthony Park residents who attended the meeting was mixed, but generally positive. Sherman Eagles said he thought Latimer’s ideas were “a good place to start,” but added that “the broader issue of what is appropriate for city government to be doing hasn’t been discussed.”

“I don’t think anything that could be done by the private sector necessarily should be done by them,” Eagles said.

JoAnn Rohricht said she “would like to know more” about the plan before it is implemented. “I’m concerned about equity for all areas,” Rohricht said, “Some neighborhoods are more able to be self-reliant than others.” Communities need to be involved early on in the implementation of a plan such as Latimer’s, Rohricht said. “I would like to see a roundtable discussion between the city and the communities looking at a whole range of options.”

Brad Rinsem said he thought Latimer’s plan was “long overdue,” adding that he was “all in favor of user taxes—if you receive a benefit you should have to pay for it.”

Comparing Latimer’s idea to the idea of building an Energy Park, which was criticized in its early stages, Rinsem said, “It takes a lot of intestinal fortitude to push new ideas.”

“There isn’t any kind of decision that’s good for all people—there is no perfect answer.”

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Former owner of Trading Post dies

Mary Sperbeck, 68, 2182 Dudley Ave., died Dec. 22 after a long illness. She had lived in the Park for 38 years.

Long-time Park residents may remember that Sperbeck and another Park resident, Jeannette Freeman owned and operated the Trading Post from 1946 to 1958, first in a part of the building where Muffuletta is now located and later moving into another part of Milton Square.

The Trading Post, according to a 1958 article in the St. Paul Dispatch, was a "year-round rummage sale" where "housewives, mothers and spousers, students and children . . . could trade clothing, antiques, gossip, recipes, philosophies and troubles."

The Dispatch article tells of a $900 cocktail dress that was brought in (to the Trading Post) and sold for $35 to a woman who wanted to wear it once at a Florida convention. Then she returned it and the dress again sold for $35. It was worn next at the fashionable Charity ball and displayed in the women's section of the Pioneer Press.

When the Trading Post closed, one resident was quoted as saying, "The Park will be like a wheel without a hub."

Sperbeck is survived by husband William, daughter Mary and son Tony.

Girl Scout bake sale

A Girl Scout Bake Sale will be held on Saturday, Feb. 26 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Park Hardware, 2290 Como Ave. Baked goods and homemade candies made by St. Anthony Park Troop #502 and their mothers will be sold. All proceeds are to be used for camping.

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conference. "I got to see how important this Peace Institute is going to be for the area," he said, predicting that the institute will be "a hub of activity and a center for dialogue and imagination."

For information about neighborhood peace activities, you can call the institute, mornings at 645-3045.

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