

Miller's sudden closing leaves Park without drug store

by David Anger

The abrupt and imminent closing of Miller's drug store on Como Avenue not only shocks many St. Anthony Park residents, but it is also prompting widespread concerns about the thoroughfare's enduring vitality as a commercial center.

"It's a wake-up call," remarked Ellen Watters, executive director of the St. Anthony Park Business Association. News of Miller's going out of business sale follows the announcement that Park Hardware is for sale and the closing of Shepard Designs in Milton Square.

Suddenly, the status quo on Como Avenue — a retail hub that is often the envy of communities across the Twin Cities — is faltering.

Watters believes that maintaining retail presence on the street, especially at the corner of Como and Doswell, is essential. When Miller's closes, Speedy

ness Sale" beginning on July 8.

No explanation was offered for the closing, although rumors flourished. Some believe that the stores' insurance rates skyrocketed, while others reported that profits were down.

Whatever the circumstances for the closing, Perry — who recently closed another pharmacy on Grand Avenue — declined to be interviewed. In addition, Miller employees were instructed by Perry not to talk with the

media. But Perry did issue a statement concerning the closing.

"Closing Miller Pharmacy was a very difficult decision to make," Perry wrote. "I've been in this community since 1974 when I first started working at Miller's

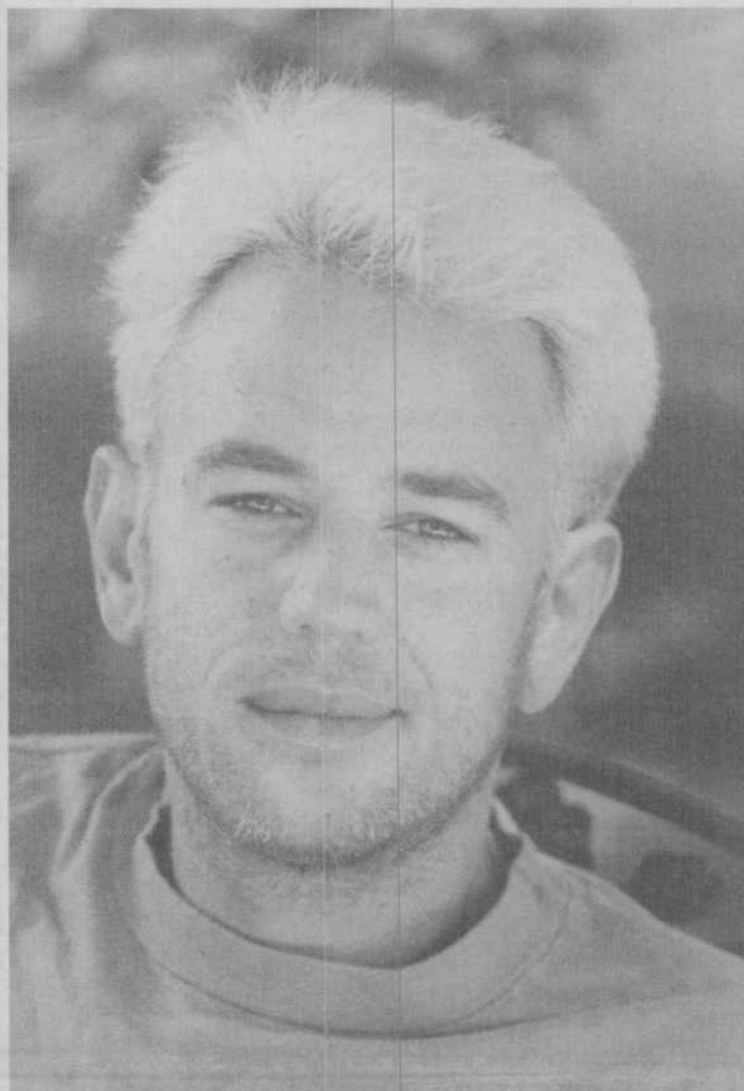
Business failure raises anxieties about neighborhood's future commercial vitality.

Market will be the lone retailer there. Bob Bulger, owner of the drug store building, is ill, and unable to comment about the future tenant.

Loyal customers first learned about the closing at the beginning of July, when owner Bill Perry circulated a letter trumpeting a "terrific Quitting Busi-

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Photo by Truman Olson



Jack Whittemore is about to undergo a bone marrow transplant.

Lauderdale workers unionize

by Judy Woodward

Collective bargaining is coming to Lauderdale. Rank-and-file employees at City Hall — all three of them — recently voted to join the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME).

Two other City of Lauderdale positions, the city administrator and the administrative analyst, are not eligible for the union. Negotiations on the fledgling bargaining unit may begin this month.

Public Works Coordinator and Building Inspector Dave Hinrichs, a 12-year employee of the city, spearheaded the organizing drive. Because of past personnel actions by the city council, Hinrichs said that unionization became an on-going topic of discussion among city workers. A major contention among employees was the existence of an "at-will clause" in their terms of employment.

Such a clause, common among private, nonunionized employers, states that an employee works at the will of the employer and can quit or be terminated at any time.

"The dismissal of [former City Administrator] Kathleen Miller made employees believe it could happen to anyone because of the at-will clause," said Hinrichs.

Kathleen Miller was dismissed by the Lauderdale City Council in 1995 and subsequently sued the city. Her case, which remains the subject of acrimonious litigation, would not have been affected by unionization, since the city administrator's position will not be covered by the contract.

Another issue likely to be raised in the contract negotiations concerns employee cost-of-living raises. Hinrichs contended that, in the past, they have not been uniform. Salary increases, Hinrichs maintained, were based solely on merit.

Hinrichs, who also believes that Lauderdale employees are not being paid at the market rates established by surrounding cities like Roseville and Shoreview, looks forward to the presence of a union representative at the contract negotiations.

"Having union reps will separate us employees from the process of wage negotiations," Hinrichs commented. "A union can

shield an employee who raises objections. Without the union, the employee would just be viewed as having a bad attitude. With the union, we'll know where we stand with issues.

Before, you might find out you no longer have a job — not because of performance issues — but because of politics."

Now that Lauderdale's employees have a union, that makes City Administrator Tim Cruikshank "management." It's not a change that's worrying Cruikshank.

"I think I have a good relationship with the employees," said the city administrator. "I'm not treating anybody differently." He added, "The union is just another entity to deal with. In some ways, it formalizes the structure. In a small group [like Lauderdale City Hall], there's a temptation to become really good friends, but you have to draw the line between supervisor and employee."

Cruikshank is unconcerned about the union situation.

"I don't think it's that exciting an issue," he said. "Lauderdale is a great little city. Let's focus on some other really neat things about it." ■

Mill City Cafe owner Jack Whittemore battles leukemia

by David Anger

Last month Jack Whittemore — owner of the popular Mill City Cafe at Raymond and University avenues — bleached his otherwise black hair blazing blonde. This is a spunky move, even for a South St. Anthony Park restaurateur. To top it all off, excuse the pun, the crown of his head is dyed iridescent purple.

Whittemore isn't preparing for a hip Fishbone concert. Instead, the 36-year-old, who was diagnosed with leukemia on Dec. 30 of last year, is about to undergo a bone marrow transplant. Afterwards, he is set to receive a hefty dose of radiation therapy. All of these procedures are certain to keep him out of the kitchen until, at least, the winter.

So, typical of the free-spirited Gemini, he is facing this life-threatening disease in style. "All of my hair is going to fall out," explained Whittemore, "so I'm having a little fun. My son,

Miles, suggested that I dye my hair blue, but that was a little far out." Then, he quipped, "Now I've got these unsightly roots."

Mill City had only been open for eight months when Whittemore began battling extended bouts of fatigue. Initially, he shrugged off the symptoms as poor health. After all, Whittemore is accustomed to working herculean hours and coasting over ailments. Then, too, opening the restaurant represented the realization of a long-held dream, and he wasn't going to allow a little cold to halt the euphoria.

Before Mill City opened, Whittemore worked as a chef for the Green Mill, Rosen's and, most recently, JD Hoyt's. Yet he yearned to create food in a non-corporate atmosphere, where he didn't need to toss up a clichéd menu of chicken wings, hamburgers and taco salads. Whittemore,

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St. Anthony Park Community Council NEWS

Council actions at a glance

At its June 26th Special Meeting the Council:

- Reviewed the activities of the South East Economic Development (SEED) Committee and the draft Master Plan for the development of the South East Industrial/Bridal Veil Area. The Council and others attending the meeting reviewed a draft response to the Master Plan and made several additions. The Community Council response was sent to the Minneapolis Community Development Agency, and the SEED Committee.

At its July 10th meeting the Council:

- Voted to communicate to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency the request that they require cleanup of the Schnitzer site to the unrestricted use level.
- Heard about the plans of the Environment Committee to gather interested parties about the odor problem coming across T.H. 280 into St. Anthony Park. The meeting will be held on the fourth Wednesday of July.

Volunteers and planting locations sought

The Council is seeking funds from Unitree for a tree planting project for Spring of 1997. Trees may be planted on both public and private property, (some matching funds will be needed from private property owners). We are looking for volunteers to help with planning the project, with the planting, and with maintenance after the planting. We hope that this will become an ongoing program for some years. Locations for planting will be determined by the volunteer committee in conformance with the Unitree guidelines. Call the Council office 292-7884, for further information and to volunteer.

National Night Out on August 6

St. Anthony Park Blockworkers and other neighbors will be observing National Night Out by holding block parties and sharing information about crime prevention.

This event is sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch (NATW) and co-sponsored locally by the St. Anthony Park Community Council. It is supported in our neighborhood by the Neighborhood Anti-Violence Action Forum and the St. Anthony Park Association. Similar events will be held in over 8,800 communities from all 50 states, U.S. Territories, Canadian cities and military bases around the world.

National Night Out is designed to: (1) Heighten crime and drug prevention

awareness; (2) Generate support and participation in local anti-crime efforts; (3) Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community relations; and (4) Send a message to criminals letting them know neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

In St. Anthony Park, events will strengthen already positive ties to our neighborhood, and reinforce the friendly, looking-out-for-each-other attitude so common in St. Anthony Park. One of the very best crime prevention tools is knowing our neighbors, something this neighborhood does exceptionally well. For more information and an "event kit" call Katie Utke at the Council Office 292-7884.

St. Anthony Park shirts are available at the council office

The Community Council is selling embroidered T-shirts and long sleeve mock turtle neck shirts for \$20 and \$28 (slightly more for XXL size). Shirts are available at the Council office, call 2927884 for information.

Council-sponsored meetings are listed each month in the Bugle Community Calendar (see page 13).
Everyone is welcome!

Office: 890 Cromwell, St. Paul, MN 55114

292-7884

Community Organizer: Abby Struck

Members: Bob Andorfer, JoAnn Benesh, Sheri Booms, Andy Boss, Sheryl Brutlag, Ken Holdeman, Richard Klimala, Nowell Leitzke, Alice Magnuson, Carole Mannheim, Jack McCann, Ann O'Loughlin, Jim Snoxell, Ellen Watters, Carol Weber and Arlene West.

This space paid for by the St. Anthony Park Community Council

Before the railroad tracks and industry, Bridal Veil Creek flowed through wetlands

by Jillian Myrom

The industrial area that straddles St. Anthony Park and Southeast Minneapolis has a double nature — to some it is an industrial mire of railroad tracks, light industry, and grain elevators; to others it is an environmental treasure chest. Bridal Veil Creek flows steadily beside a Superfund site. The Goodwill on Como Avenue sits on what was once a pond, and potholes in the parking lot show where the water in the ground rises to reclaim the land. A portion of Kasota Pond, now splintered into four separate wetland fragments, contains a species of shrimp unique to the pond.

At times it is called the Bridal Veil Watershed, sometimes simply a wetland; the official name "Southeast Minneapolis Industrial Area" does not convey the rich environmental legacy that researchers see in its acres.

As the Southeast Economic Development Committee takes a short break for the summer and the MCDA and BRW Architects read through and incorporate neighborhood comments into the master plan for the area, those who use the industrial area regularly go about their business.

Karlyn Eckman, adjunct professor in the College of Natural Resources at the University of Minnesota, continues her trips out to the area to document the range of species that make the wetland their home. In addition, James Cooper, College of Natural Resources, compiled ten years of research on the springs that feed the Kasota system. Then, Lance Neckar, Landscape Architecture, and his students catalogued all of the contaminated sites in the area, creating the only such comprehensive map that exists.

Eckman and student researchers were temporarily halted by a group of transients who camped out in a particularly

overgrown wooded grove below Highway 280 and near the Amtrak rail line, which is secluded on all sides from view. That stretch of land once attracted nearly every species of woodpecker found in Minnesota, but today when the researchers return, most of the birds have fled the site due to the presence of the transients.

Within that wooded grove grows wild asparagus that local residents come and harvest; bird houses hang from an occasional branch, evidence that neighbors are aware of this grove and care for the birds that pass through the area.

Any individual who is not a

onto the soggy soil and began construction. Today some of those buildings have structural problems, the driveways keep sinking and water keeps coming up through the parking lot. "It wants to be a swamp," said Eckman.

Kasota Pond, which once would have been a sizable body of water, now is fragmented by Highway 280, Kasota Avenue, and the railroad tracks. One portion of it lies behind La Canasta Foods, near a series of railroad lines. Despite the contamination in the soil from years of constant industry, the creosote from the tracks, and random dumping of refuse into the ponds, there is life in the ponds.

"There's so much garbage and trash in (the west remnant of Kasota Pond), I couldn't imagine anything could be alive in here, and to my astonishment I came by here one day and I saw a kingfisher diving in and minnows spawning," said

Eckman.

One feature of the industrial area that Eckman believes she has discovered is Skonard Spring, one of three natural spring sources in the Twin Cities, historically used for drinking water. Today the flow is modest but steady, as it flows almost imperceptibly into a creek that skirts Safelite Auto Glass. Eckman's 96-year old great uncle tells her that he used to stand in line at the Skonard Spring, waiting his turn to capture fresh drinking water to take home. Eckman found the site by tracing old maps.

The proximity of industry and environment plays itself out in mysterious ways. Even now, as the water from Skonard Spring flows quietly along the perimeter of Safelite's parking lot, the company's landscaping equipment has been stored haphazardly — directly on top of a persistent flowage that is impervious to the encroaching industries. ■

Southeast Minneapolis Industrial Area does not convey its rich environmental legacy.

railroad employee or doesn't work in the industries that dot the industrial area is trespassing. Much of the land is owned by Burlington Northern railroad, but ownership of the land that stretches into marshes, prairie grasses and creeks where the pavement ends is unclear.

But people trespass anyway. Como and St. Anthony Park residents stroll through the area with their dogs, joggers run beside the active railroad lines, birdwatchers and Boy Scouts come for nature studies, and university professors return almost daily to expand their field notes on the ponds, creeks, and wildlife associated with them.

Prior to the industrialization of the area, a series of large ponds blanketed the eastern edge of the site, from Goodwill at Como Avenue and Highway 280 to the Mississippi River. As industries bought up the valuable land that sits conveniently between both Twin Cities, they filled in the ponds, poured a base of "fill"

Pharmacy closing . . . from 1

and I bought the business in 1983."

"The fact is, however, that I can't afford to keep Miller Pharmacy open any longer. Third-party insurance companies now control how much pharmacies . . . get reimbursed for their services. Also, this neighborhood chose to purchase their prescriptions and other sundry items elsewhere. I hope St. Anthony Park recognizes its shares of the responsibility for Miller's closing."

Even so, the closing of neighborhood pharmacies is a city-wide epidemic, affecting rich and poor boroughs. Besides St. Paul, small pharmacies have closed in Edina, Minneapolis and Falcon Heights, although Blomberg Pharmacy at

1583 Hamline Avenue is open.

There was a time, before dominance of insurance companies and before the emergence of megastores, when St. Anthony Park boasted two drug stores. Beyond Miller's, a drug store prevailed in the space that is now occupied by Manning's.

Those days have passed. "The chances of getting another pharmacy in the neighborhood are slim to zero," said Watters.

To strengthen the neighborhood's retail core, Watters implores residents to shop locally. Others believe that stronger actions must be taken. Lucy Cutler of Lauderdale thinks that state legislation should be enacted to protect neighborhood pharmacies. Sen. John Marty is sponsor-

ing of the Prescription Fair Competition Act, which aims to allow state employees the freedom to buy their prescriptions locally. Marty pledges to reintroduce the legislation in the next session.

Regardless of whether or not legislation is passed and regardless of what business will eventually fill Miller's space, neighbors are deeply saddened by the drug store's departure.

"Miller's was more than a drug store," said Jane Delger Donaho, whose father, Arny Delger, is a former Miller's partner. "It was a community center."

Yet Perry concluded, "No one wishes that the pharmacy could have stayed open more than I, but the reality is I didn't have any other choice." ■

Miller v. Lauderdale litigation continues in civil court

by David Anger

Kathleen Miller's lawsuit against the city of Lauderdale is now being played out in the U.S. District Court, where the former city administrator is demanding damages in excess of \$200,000 plus legal fees.

Miller, who was hired by Lauderdale on April 1, 1992 and fired by a vote of three to two by the city council on Jan. 24, 1995, charges that not only were her constitutional rights violated, but that her character was defamed and that she endured emotional distress. In addition, Miller claims that the firing interfered with her two-year contract, which was signed at the beginning of her employment.

Lauderdale denies these allegations. Mark Kruger, an attorney at Gray, Plant, and Moory, represents the city and answered Miller's complaint. Besides denying the allegations, he asked for the complaint's dismissal and that the court reimburse Lauderdale for its costs involved in the lawsuit, including attorneys' fees.

Many observers are confused that the litigation is continuing because last Feb. the Minnesota Court of Appeals ruled that the municipality did possess the right to fire her at-will.

Dorene Sarnoski, Miller's attorney, said that Minnesota law dictates that all civic employees hired and fired by governmental bodies must first bring grievances before the Court of Appeals.

Even so, Sarnoski said the scope of the Court of Appeals' investigation was narrow, limited to evidence only pertaining to the city council meeting that moved to terminate Miller's employment. Now, Miller is pressing arguments and seeking monetary damages on issues that were not addressed by the Court of Appeals.

The litigation is in the discovery stage in which both parties are compelled to produce docu-

ments related to Miller's tenure and dismissal. After the discovery period, which is set to conclude in Feb. of 1997, the court may review further motions, which could result in the dismissal of the case entirely. A trial may take place next summer, although the matter may be settled out of court.

Miller's firing proved to be a highly divisive moment in the city of 2,700 people and surfaced as an election issue last Nov. While several residents were dissatisfied with Miller's performance, others praised her accomplishments. Thus, when the city council under the leadership of Mayor Jeff Dains moved to terminate her employment, many people were alarmed by the action. Besides Dains, council members Jack Barlow and Steve Froehlich voted to fire Miller, while council members Susan Bardill and Gene Ohman dissented.

Miller's complaint alleges that before the firing the former city administrator garnered positive performance reviews and salary increases. Then, the complaint continues, Dains and Froehlich approached Miller on Jan. 19, 1995 and asked her to sign a letter of resignation.

Miller refused. Instead, she contacted Bardill, Barlow and Ohman, who informed her that they were unaware of the move to fire her. The next day, Miller received a "Notice of Intent to Terminate" from the mayor and three days later, at the regularly-scheduled city council meeting, her employment was terminated immediately.

The complaint also alleges that Dains as well as Froehlich and Barlow "acted with malice in creating and communicating to the public false, defamatory and stigmatizing impressions about" Miller related to her employment and termination.

Miller is now employed by the City of Delano. ■

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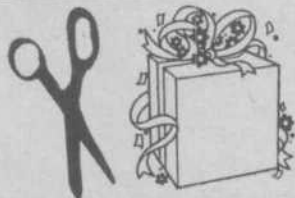


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EDITORIAL

Beyond bitterness

Many residents of Lauderdale might be alarmed by the page three news, reporting that the employment saga between former City Administrator Kathleen Miller and the city that fired her 18 months ago is continuing in the courts. Her termination possessed strong implications. Sides were taken and bitterness persists. Now, more than halfway through 1996, it's time not to assign blame but to contemplate how neighbors can move beyond the controversy and begin mending the open seams of the past.

Running the risk of sounding glib, possibly even dismissing the efficacy of our vast and complex legal system, it's important to understand that litigation doesn't necessarily overturn the terrible effects of past injustices or exonerate the winner. For every legal opinion that is made, there is inevitably dissent. The O.J. Simpson verdict, rendered one year ago, offers a dramatic illustration that a jury's decision doesn't always relax public tensions.

Letting go is never easy, but it is essential for restoring a sense of community. It's time for friends and foes to acknowledge that both Kathleen Miller and the members of the Lauderdale city council are mere mortals. Just because Miller was fired doesn't make her a horrible person or an incompetent professional. Similarly, the council's decision to revoke her job doesn't necessarily make them sinister.

It's Miller's right to pursue this litigation and to seek a closure to a very unhappy chapter in her employment history. It's also Lauderdale's prerogative to contest. But whether Miller or the city prevails in this lawsuit, the residue of the past is certain to linger. The larger challenge — at least for the citizens of Lauderdale — is to identify what lessons can be learned from this debacle and to continue to build a better community in spite of it. ■

LETTERS

Festival a hit

The St. Anthony Park Arts Festival on June 1 was a huge success. We had great vendors, great entertainment, great food, and great crowds. Everyone commented on how nice the Festival is, and how the community spirit really shows.

The St. Anthony Park Branch Library Association sponsors the Arts & Crafts Fair part of the Festival, raising virtually its entire yearly budget from fees paid by the artists and crafters. For 27 years, volunteers have put on one of the best art fairs in the Twin Cities area. I would like to publicly salute the people who contributed this year.

Members of the library and business associations staffed the information tent. Two local ceramics teachers provided day-long craft demon-

strations. Lace makers and weavers also demonstrated their crafts. Neighborhood singers and dancers played to appreciative audiences. While other festivals rely on rock bands to draw a crowd, visitors to St. Anthony Park are entertained in a family-friendly atmosphere.

On behalf of the library association, congratulations to Ellen Waters and the business association, co-sponsor of the Festival. It was a pleasure working with you.

Jane Delger Donahoe
Arts & Crafts Fair Chairman

National Night Out

On Tuesday, Aug. 6, people can gather as a community and reaffirm our commitment to crime-free neighborhoods. It's also a chance to meet new neighbors and renew

our support in the fight against crime. Contact Katie at the St. Anthony Community Council (292-7884) and she will help arrange a visit from officer Jim Campbell. So, if you haven't done so yet, get your party organized for National Night Out.

Commander Mike Smith

Bandstand clarification

The money to restore the bandstand in Langford came from John and Bernadine Dow and their family.

Hmong soccer festival

On July 5, during the Hmong soccer festival, I was asked by a Southeast Asian couple if they could park in front of my home near Como Park. I said, "Sure, anyone can

park on a public street."

But, from July 5 to 7, parking was restricted by special permits on our streets because of "residents' concerns." I have concerns with the thousands of State Fair, and corporate picnic, among others, parkers. Yet, parking permits are only enforced during the Hmong soccer festival.

Many of the Hmong festival goers live in St. Paul and pay taxes, but they can't park on the public streets nearest to the event. There are corporate picnic groups that don't reside and pay taxes here that are allowed to park freely on our public streets. Could it be that their culture and Hmong identity has raised the most "resident concerns." Shame on us!

Catharine Parsons

COMMENTARY

Piano playing is a life-long lesson

by Michelle Christianson



I am a piano teacher. I deal daily with children (mostly) who practice (or not) and come

with trepidation (or not) to their piano lessons. In this last year I have come to understand their mindsets acutely. You see, I have begun taking lessons myself again.

I am a classically trained pianist and have always had plenty of confidence in my skill and competence. But I am not taking the kind of lessons I have had in the past. I am taking jazz lessons, and believe me, this has given me an insight into my own students that I have never had.

When I began lessons again, I thought that I would master this new skill in about two or three months. I began in May and figured that I would be ready by fall. Ha! Despite the fact that I was using the same fingers on the same keyboard, the approach is completely different, and one year later I am still humbled by my own ineptitude.

It's not that I don't practice—I do, as my luckless neighbors can attest now that all the windows are open. But practice can only go so far where improvisation is concerned. I never know exactly what I will hear when I sit down in front of my teacher to play. My fingers seem to have a life of their own.

Sometimes the solo goes really well, also to my surprise. Other times I hear myself offering the same excuses that I hear from my own students. "I did practice. This was better at home. It's this piano — it sounds so much different than my own." Then I hear the same words from my teacher that I say. "Try it again. Slow down. It's the expression that I'm most concerned

about." I know these things, but when my heart is racing and my hands are sweating it's hard to concentrate.

Sometimes I quickly flip by a song that has been giving me trouble, hoping that my teacher won't notice. His bemused smile tells me that I didn't fool him. Other times I look at the clock saying, "Isn't the half hour almost up now?" When I first began, I tried to fill up the time talking about jazz or even having my teacher demonstrate what he would do with a certain melody. But then I decided to face the music, as it were, and just play.

Bad improvisation begets bad improvisation. The adrenaline ("fight or flight") flows, the tempo speeds up, strange chords and banal rhythms make their appearance and both of us end up laughing at what just happened. Of course, it's not always bad, and I know that I have made quite a bit of progress.

I like older music, especially Gershwin and Ellington. I often can spend a wonderful evening just playing through my favorites, oblivious to the rest of the world. That's what makes everything worthwhile.

Which is the whole point. Not everything one does has to be for career advancement or even for enhancing others' pleasure (as most musical performances aim to do). For me, it's enough that I am expanding my life by learning a skill that I didn't have before. If at some future point I can actually perform, that will be just gravy.

Because I play, I often have other adults tell me that they wish they had continued the lessons that they took when they were children. Because I have taught many children, I know that if they quit then, they were never going to be really accomplished pianists no matter how many years they took lessons. But this experience has taught me that although adults learn more slowly, they can take more pleasure in small increments of achievement than children do with their blithe attitude toward learning new skills. It's just too easy for them.

So, if you want to learn piano, or pottery, or even long-distance biking, don't think that you're too old. The process may be longer, but the rewards are great. Trust me. ■

Next issue August 29

Deadlines:

Display ads.....August 15

News & classifieds.....August 19

PARK BUGLE

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The Bugle is a community newspaper serving St. Anthony Park, Lauderdale, Falcon Heights and Northwest Como Park. The Bugle reports and analyzes community news and promotes the exchange of ideas and opinions in these communities. The Bugle strives to promote freedom of expression, enhance the quality of life in the readership communities and encourage community participation.

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C O M M E N T A R Y



Everyone needs a hero

by Natalie Zett

I love film stars! As a kid, I was mesmerized by the characters they portrayed as well as their personal lives. Since I have felt self-conscious about this passion, I was relieved to find that Joseph Campbell, in the "Power of Myth," believed that film characters serve as archetypes. He even concluded that they may be modern civilization's heroes. Campbell added that heroes are something that human beings have a deep need to connect with.

As a child, living in the years before home videos, films such as the "Wizard of Oz," were only shown once a year. The Wizard became a family tradition. We anticipated the trip down the yellow brick road with a fervor normally reserved for birthdays and holidays. An eternity passed between when the film's showing was listed in the TV Guide and its exhibition on the small screen.

When the special night arrived, even our mother was caught up in the excitement. She treated the family to a special meal, but, even better, we kids ate popcorn and drank Kool-Aid during the movie. At the appointed time, we crouched in front of the black and white set. It didn't matter if this was our first or fifth viewing. The Wicked Witch terrified us. We never reached consensus who was better: the Scarecrow, the Tin Man or the Cowardly Lion.

My mother and I had our special favorites: she wanted to be Glinda. Once, she even demonstrated her devotion to the Good Witch of the North by attempting to emulate her hair style. The result was less than enchanting. Big hair was not a look for a third grader in the '60s, so Mom had her chopped off for the summer months. She spent the summer of '65 resembling Moe of "Three Stooges" fame.

My heart belonged to Dorothy. From the moment she sang "Over the Rainbow," Judy Garland became a goddess to me.

Besides inspiring a new generation of children (for better or for worse), the Wizard showings probably helped a resurgence of Judy Garland's career vis-a-vis her weekly TV show in the '60s. I remember being extremely disappointed after watching the show for the first time exclaiming to my mother, "That lady doesn't look like Judy Garland!"

She didn't look like Judy Garland. She looked worn

out. There was one memorable show where she teared up, blubbered through a song, and then, at the song's conclusion, staggered off camera.

My mom, also a devoted Judy fan, excused her, saying, "She's had a lot of problems." Mom then recited the familiar tragic litany that is as much a part of the icon as her voice and her movie roles.

I wondered how a girl who'd been to Oz and back could slash her wrists? Why in the world would this girl drink too much or overdose on pills?

"Is she like cousin Henry's wife?" I asked my mother. She nodded and said nothing.

Not only was my hero human, she was like cousin Henry's wife, who the family called "the drunk."

It haunted me for quite a while that the lives of Dorothy Gale and Judy Garland were as far apart from one another as Oz was from Kansas.

Judy's tragedy showed me that a gifted, talented, beautiful soul is not necessarily transformed by her talents and may even feel tortured by them. When our heroes' flaws are exposed publicly, it often gives us the courage to evaluate our lives. Sometimes, we are inspired to come out of whatever closet we're hiding in and get help, if we need it. Hearing that a celebrity has checked into a treatment center is hardly news, although just a few decades before it may have killed a career. Judy Garland helped further that cause.

One closet that may even be more difficult to emerge from is mental illness. Another celebrity's recent misfortune helped bring that subject to the public's awareness again. When Margot Kidder, the actor who portrayed Lois Lane in the Superman movies, was found incoherent and disheveled, my heart broke a little bit again. Even if the actor and characters portrayed aren't quite heroes, the publicity still has an impact.

That particular week last spring was a bad one for Margot, as well as for a friend I'd gotten to know a few months before. Although I knew of this woman's previous hospitalizations for psychiatric disorders, she seemed fine. I appreciated her candor. She had marvelous perspective about her situation and was one of the most articulate people I'd met in a while. I enjoyed getting to know her and believed this was the beginning of a tremendous friendship.

We'd see each other every week, taking in plays, films, or just talking over dinner. One day I noticed that something seemed off—something I couldn't put my finger on. Our conversations stopped flowing. The nuances

and the gallows sense of humor that she found so amusing about me sailed right by her. She began interpreting everything I said literally. For example, I told her I'd meet her between 7:30 and 8:00. She heard it as "7:38" and began ranting about how ridiculous that was. I found myself in a spin cycle of getting irritated, stifling my anger because, after all, she probably couldn't help it, feeling guilty about getting irritated, and getting irritated all over again.

Little by little, I felt myself withdrawing, wanting to spend less time with her. The exchanges that were initially so free and light were exhausting. I became tired and depressed whenever I spent time with her.

She became more demanding of my time, needing me to validate her views and behavior. I pulled away

even more. I finally told her about my concerns and even mentioned that I felt afraid of her. She appeared to hear me and said she was going to get help. About two weeks later, she didn't seem to remember this conversation. Instead, she laughed about it.

I met her for lunch in April. By that time, I felt as if I was addressing a visitor to the planet who had no point of reference to our culture and our language. We said good-bye, and I haven't seen her since. That same week she suffered a nervous breakdown.

"What did you learn?" a friend recently asked.

"That it wasn't hell, but I could see it from there," I responded.

While I'd rather remember Judy Garland as Dorothy, Margot Kidder as Lois Lane, and my friend

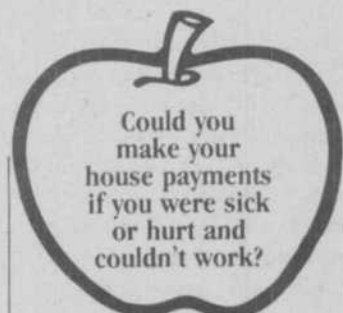
as she initially was, I learned that those are only facets of the seemingly vast parameters of the human personality. I like to think of a personality as a steady, static thing, but that's clearly not the case. That it could seem to disappear, and in my friend's case have nothing to replace it with, was unnerving.

Having a similar thing happen to Margot Kidder that same week gave me a point of reference when explaining it to other friends. I was frankly amazed that some of them recoiled when I related this friend's plight.

For me it's horrifying to be so close to another's personal abyss. We fear that if we get any closer, we might somehow fall in, too. Maybe that's it . . . why we pull away, why we have a need to deny, judge, and stigmatize. Maybe we're just afraid we'll fall in.

For me, as I struggle with the grief, questions, and guilt, I could use a few more heroes. ■

"When our heroes' flaws are exposed publicly, it often gives us the courage to evaluate our lives."



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Upwards spiral in property taxes

by Judy Woodward

Property taxes are going up, and Carol Weber knows it. The St. Anthony Park-based realtor received more than ten calls in the last few months from former clients and neighbors. All the callers ask variations of the same question, "Carol, is it really true? Is my house really worth what the tax bill says it is?"

Weber is often put in the uncomfortable position of explaining that, yes, real market values are strong in the Park and, yes, in today's market, you probably could get the dizzying sum proposed by the County Assessor as your house's estimated fair market value. The catch, of course, is that you have to sell your home first.

This riles an elderly, semi-retired resident of Raymond Avenue. Noting that the house she has owned for more than 30 years is now assessed at over \$100,000 and that her tax bill rises a "few hundred dollars" each year, the homeowner, who asked to remain anonymous, complained, "When people are at the stage of life where their ability to make money is declining, it's the wrong time to raise taxes."

So-called "circuit breaker" legislation, which provides property tax breaks to senior citizens and other low-income residents, is not always the solution. For instance, City Council member Bobbi Megard cites a case of a divorced woman in the Park with a current annual income of \$9,000 and a property tax bill of around \$2,000. "This woman may lose her house," says Megard, "Circuit breakers don't work for extreme poverty cases."

Megard believes that one answer lies in finding ways to raise market values throughout the city, so that neighborhoods like North St. Anthony Park are not disproportionately asked to shoulder increases in the tax burden.

Property taxes have risen faster here than in many other parts of St. Paul. Where the average city residence has seen its

value for tax purposes increase less than 10 percent in the past five years, many homeowners in this area have faced double-digit annual increases. Part of the increase may be due to the shifting impact of taxes. Amounts paid by commercial and industrial taxpayers, which used to account for almost 40 percent of the tax base as recently as 1990, have slipped to about a third of the current total tax burden. City planner Mark Vander Schaaf said that the valuation of downtown commercial property fell by 50 percent over the last decade. Consequently, residential property owners have had to swallow the slack.

Minnesota Taxpayers Association survey of property taxes. Weber is concerned that rising property taxes may push city residents to leave the city. Despite the recognized attractions of the Park, she said, "Our city services are not as good, our houses cost more to maintain because they're older [than suburban homes] and the cost of schooling is higher in St. Paul. There's a temptation for people to say maybe it's time to move to the suburbs. The City of St. Paul has worked hard to keep neighborhoods vital. Does it realize the effect that [these rising taxes] are having?"

Vander Schaaf agreed that sometimes, "There's a bottom-line disincentive to stay in St. Paul." He emphasized that city leadership is very concerned with the problem, and that they've taken a strong line against any new tax levies. But Vander Schaaf believes that ultimate solutions must be regional in scope, involving suburbs as well as the urban core.

"The cities are left with rising needs [of a poorer population], and declining tax dollars. There's little a

Weber suggested another key to the problem. "Because we do get good prices for our houses in a very desirable neighborhood, valuations have gone up. What scares people around here is that they're jumping so fast."

The realtor believes that some tax valuations in the neighborhood are approaching 100 percent of what the house might sell for in today's strong real estate market. She worries that if external factors like rising interest rates or general economic trends were to push real estate prices in the Park down, property tax valuations would not necessarily follow suit. Under such a scenario, homeowners might pay steeper taxes than their lowered house values would warrant.

St. Paul tax rates are already among the highest in the metro area, ranking fourth among the more than 100 Twin Cities communities in the latest annual

city can do by itself to get out of that [predicament]."

Megard called it "a fairness issue," noting that the metro region as a whole, including the central cities, is in effect subsidizing the development of outlying suburbs because of state and regional financial incentives for construction of roads and services. "The central cities have paid for our infrastructure. We can't afford the double whammy [of subsidizing the infrastructure of new communities]." Megard also stressed that the first-ring suburbs are beginning to face some of the same financial problems as the inner cities.

Despite the gloomy tax figures, nobody is talking about writing off neighborhoods like St. Anthony Park. Megard put it wryly, "I don't see any empty houses in the Park. Somebody is still willing to come in, buy the houses, pay the taxes." ■

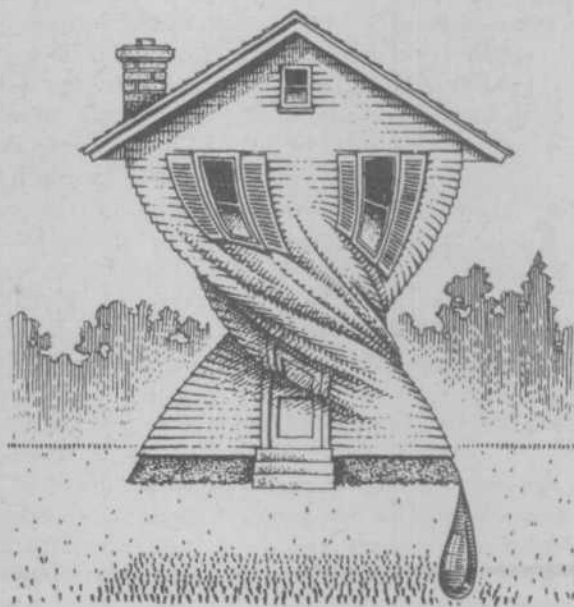


Illustration by Warren Hanson



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After biking 450 miles in the Twin Cities-Chicago AIDS Ride, Sheryl Brutlag is poised to trek across Minnesota for multiple sclerosis.

Brutlag pedals against AIDS

by James Wevley

Sheryl Brutlag is a number cruncher. As an associate at the accounting firm of Bane Holtzclaw and Company, she calculates credits and debits for her clients' financial well-being. But, for the last seven months, much of her free time has been occupied with an entirely different kind of arithmetic: logging hundreds of miles for the fight against AIDS.

Brutlag learned of the Twin Cities-Chicago AIDS Ride last year and decided to participate after a conversation with her aunt who had recently lost a friend to the virus.

"I've been lucky that I haven't been touched by the disease. Other people are not as fortunate," she explained. With her aunt's encouragement, and her own desire for a "physical challenge," Brutlag began training on a stationary bicycle throughout the winter months, averaging about 60 miles per week.

After tax season came to a close, her exercise regimen intensified to 30 miles each weekday, and between 40 and 70 miles on the

weekends. Before the trek was to begin, Brutlag had covered hundreds of miles on her bicycle and was prepared to battle her way through some of the hilliest terrain in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

The grueling six-day mission began on July 1 in Minneapolis and ended on July 6 in Chicago. The ride was divided into six legs, varying from 58 to 100 miles in length, attracting over 1,400 cyclists from across the country.

To help participants, a motorcade of volunteers provided food, water, showers, and restrooms. At night, bikers shared tents at resting points along the route.

"There was a real sense of community among the participants," said Brutlag. "The atmosphere was open, accepting, and very friendly. It didn't matter if you were gay, straight, positive, negative or whatever. It was non-discriminatory. We were all just there for the cause and the statement the ride made."

Brutlag enlisted for the AIDS Ride through the St. Paul Jaycees,

Pedaling against AIDS to 16

Photo by Truman Olson

Remodeling Concepts



by
Peter
Hagen, CR

The New Kitchen Geometry

While the single work triangle has served as the basis of kitchen layout for many years, it is being increasingly replaced by dual triangles. Whereas the original kitchen work triangle was defined by the sink, refrigerator, and range at the points of the triangle, the addition of a second sink, microwave, separate cooktop, and peninsula or island has led to the multiple-cook kitchen. Even a simple corridor kitchen can gain two-cook status by adding a sink. The addition of a sink and microwave, each with its own separate area, can transform a G-shape kitchen into a two-cook wonder. By incorporating two cooktops into a U-shape kitchen with shared access to an island sink and refrigerator, homeowners can update a standard layout into a modern model of efficiency.

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On Thursday, August 8th from 7-8 PM, retired U of M Professor Gerhard Neubeck will be reading from his latest volume of poetry, along with some older selections. Mr. Neubeck is a St. Anthony Park resident.

On Thursday, August 29th from 7-8:30 PM, Gretchen

von Loewe Kreuter will be reading from her newly released *Forgotten Promise - Race and Gender Wars on a Small College Campus*.

Former St. Anthony Park resident Gretchen Kreuter has taught at Macalester and St. Olaf Colleges and was born in Minneapolis. This memoir reveals what it was like to head an American college in the "culture wars" era.



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Thank you to everyone who contributed to the 1996 Fourth in the Park—those listed, those who enthusiastically participated in the festivities at Langford Park.

Chair: Sandee Kelsey

Coordinators: Joan Barrick (Environmental Studies Chicken Barbecue Dinner), Mary Ann Bernard (Insurance and Permits), Mary Dow Styve (Financial), Alice Duggan (St. Anthony Park Independence Day Marching Band), Katherine Eklund (Scheduling), Ken Eklund (Scheduling), Joe Germain (Games and Park Set-up), Mark Hansen (Recycling), Sandee Kelsey (Noon Program and Door Prizes), John Magnuson (Distance races and power volleyball), Sally Maguire Huth (Food), Sandy McClure (Raffle), Joanne McCord (Food), Beth Peterson (Parade), Mike Peterson (Parade), Stu Peterson (Financial), Judy Probst (Parade), St. Anthony Park Elementary School Environmental Studies Program—parents, students and family (publicity mailing and chicken barbecue), Cindy Vik Thrasher (Publicity and Afternoon Music Program), and Blaine Thrasher (Afternoon Music Program).

Food Service, Parade, Publicity, Raffle and Ticket Sales, and Set-up Volunteers: Muffy Abrahamson, Tim Abrahamson, Mary Jane Addison, Joy Albrecht, Jane Anderson, Roger Arnold, Bob Beck, Mary Beck, Mary Ann Barrick, Alan Baudry, Marc Baudry, Mary Ann Bernard, Cindy Bevier, Boy Scout Troop 17, Mel Boynton, Mary Briggs, Eugene Broos, Suzanne Brust, Jeff Budd, Barb Burk, Charlie Christopherson, Tara Christopherson, Barb Cain, Richard Cain, Aaron Colantti, Alice Duggan, Brett Davies, Hal Dragseth, Pam Dragseth, Ron DuFault, Katherine Eklund, Kent Eklund, Carol Elson, Catherine Fury, Andrew Gallagher, Donna Gallagher, Libby Geier, Barb Groves, Julie Glowka, Bob Hahnen, Mark Hansen, Brenda Hansen, Ev Hanson, Warren Hanson, Patty Hanson, Victor Hanson, Alice Hausman, Marilyn Hoegemeyer, Bill Huth, Anita Kangas, Rita LaDoux, Eric Larson, Julie Lee, Ted Lee, Lucille Lembke, Sally Maguire-Huth, Susan Macalaster, Sandy McClure, Ian McCord, Jim McCord, Stew McIntosh, Kathy McIntosh, Becky Mellstrom, Ken Myrhe, Marnie Myrhe, Paul Ofstedal, Dorothea Ofstedal, Denny Olson, Ron Olson, Mark Phillips, Randy Phillips, Judy Probst, Cari Risi, St. Anthony Park Community Council, St. Anthony Park Library Association, Connie Sanborn, Tony Schumacher, Jon Schumacher, Judy Schumacher Mark Seeley, Emma Seeley, Anna Shepard, Nat Shepard, John Shepard, John Solberg, Gary Sparr, Paul Swedenborg, Rita Swedenborg, Katherine Tanek, Bob Thayer, Nancy Thayer, Blaine Thrasher, Rich Uslander, Sue VonBank, Holly Waalen, Betsy Waalen, Jeremiah Willard, Jeff Willens, Sally Willens, Diane Young, and Nevin Young.

Afternoon Music on the Bandstand: St. Anthony Park Community Band, Three Men and a Banjo, Synergy, Michael Keyes and Nick Jordan, and Igor Razskazoff and his Oompa Band.

St. Anthony Park Businesses donated cash, in-kind help and door prizes: All Seasons Cleaners, Bane Holtzclaw & Co. LLP, the Bibelot Shop, Botanicals and Beyond, Bruegger's Bagel Bakery, the Bugle, Carter Avenue Cafe Shop, Como Chiropractic Health Center, Country Peddler, H.B. Fuller, Raymond DDS, Todd Grossmann DDS, Emil Gustafson Jewelers, Hampden Park Foods, Hermes Floral Co., Micawbers Bookstore, Mill City Cafe, Miller Pharmacy, Movie Shelf, Muffuletta Restaurant, Noll Hardware, Olson Graphic Products, Open Hands, Park Hardware, Park Service Inc., ParkBank, Parkview Cafe, Igor Razskazoff, St. Anthony Park Association, St. Anthony Park State Bank, St. Anthony Park Barber Stylists, Don Scherzbert, Speedy Market, Susan's Deli, Taste of Scandinavia, WHO? and the 4th of July Committee.

Raffle Winners: Carla Granger, Mark Hueg, Tim Poor, A.J. Schumacher, and Jeff Willius.



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C E N T E R**The Evocative Photos
of Doug Beasley**

by Amy Causton

For most of us, who have a hard time taking a good picture even with an automatic camera that frames, focuses, and does all but say "cheese," the world of professional photography can seem incredibly technical and unfath-

He already has equipment for printing in his basement studio; he hopes to be able to work completely out of his house, he said.

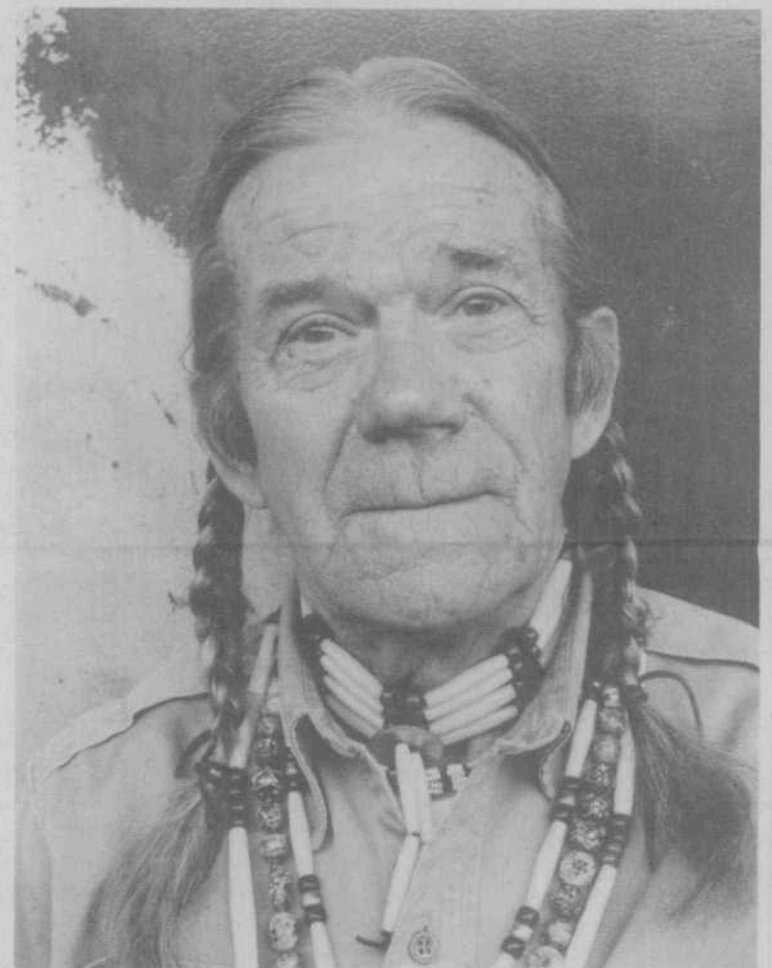
Beasley also does what he calls "fine art" photography. Several exhibitions of his work through the Walker Art Center, the Hennepin County

omable. But for Doug Beasley, that world has been home for his entire adult life. He is a professional photographer who, when he is not working in the basement studio at his St. Anthony Park home or in his Minneapolis studio, is traveling across the country taking pictures.

Beasley grew up in Detroit, where he first became interested in photography when his father gave him an old camera. He went to the art school at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor where, he said, the photography classes were always full. He studied a number of things, including Eastern religions and Native American culture and went through a few different majors before getting into a photography class — his first formal instruction — and loved it.

After receiving his B.F.A. in photography in 1980, Beasley moved to the Twin Cities where he managed to land a job as a black and white printer at Marvy Photography, a major commercial studio. Later, he worked as an assistant at other studios, and in 1984 he opened his own, Beasley Photography, in downtown Minneapolis.

Beasley excelled in fashion photography and advertising, working for numerous corporate clients, including Target, Dayton's, Saks, and Macy's. He now emphasizes annual reports for non-profits and corporate foundations, and college recruitment publications. He also does non-profit public service work for organizations such as the MS Society, the Minneapolis Urban League, and the American Cancer Society. These days, due to the changing nature of his work, he does very little shooting in his Minneapolis studio — most of his assignments are traveling location work.



Little Hawk Chris

how they're supposed to shoot, or the techniques to lead [them] to their own vision. One can learn to use a camera... but the essence is having a vision."

Beasley also believes in helping others and he is able to do that as president of the west Media Artists Access Center. The center provides access to equipment and resources for artists who can use dark rooms, editing equipment they may not be able to afford.

With all these responsibilities, Beasley finds time to do his personal work, he admitted. "That's the first thing I make it a priority, because the

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e: "I love St. Anthony Park,"

photography and he has had
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Beasley teaches classes for the
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hich he founded in 1992.

inspiration to found Vision
ms from his own love of pho-
workshops. "I really liked the
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of them." When Film in the
ed, there was really no place
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hers, he says, so he decided to
Classes are held over the
throughout the summer at a
ter in Trade River, Wis. He
teaching workshops this fall
do and Guatemala.

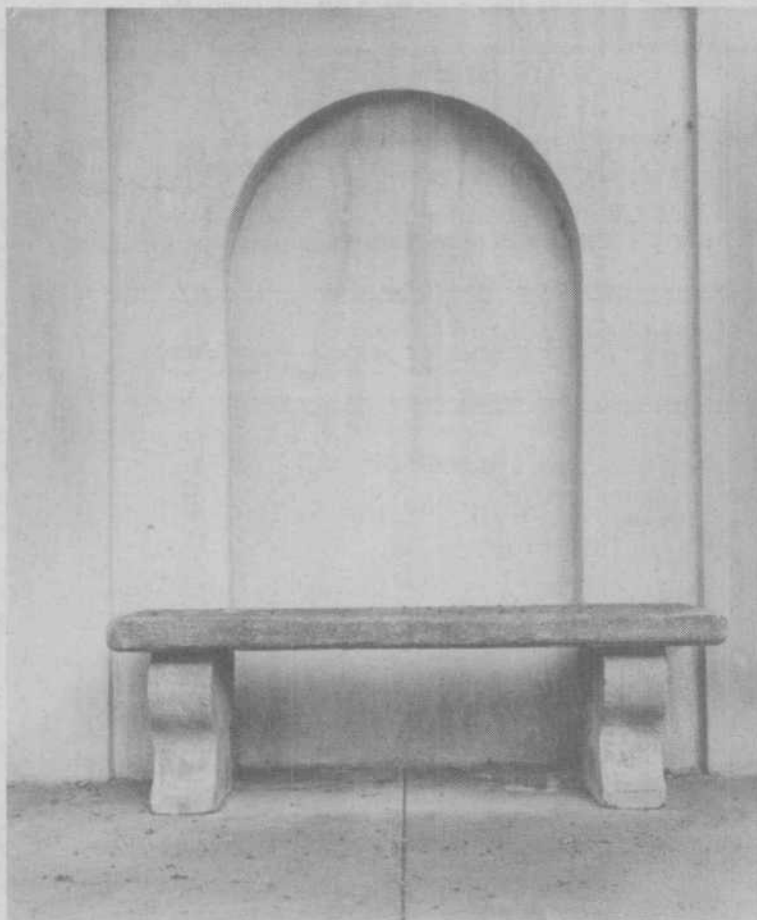
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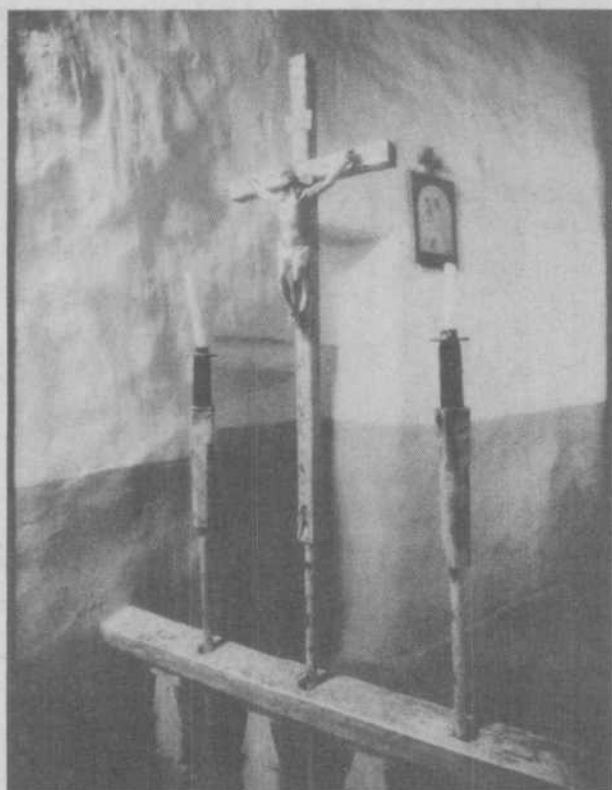
Untitled from series, Finding God in the Alleys

becoming more important to me."

He is planning to travel to Japan in December on a McKnight Founda-
tion Photography Fellowship. He got another McKnight Fellowship five

years ago and went to
South Dakota to do a
photographic study on
"Sacred Sites of the Lako-
ta." Now, with his trip to
Japan, he hopes to expand
the idea to explore "how
the sacred enters into
everyday life." Beasley,
whose mother is from
Japan and who is currently
developing a Japanese gar-
den in his front yard, is
looking forward to making
his first trip there.

The Japanese project
will be right in keeping
with Beasley's work; he
deals often with spiritual
themes, particularly spiri-
tual exploration. As for
other trademarks of his
style, he says, "I try to have
a sense of spontaneity" as
well as a sense of place. He
sums up his approach like
this: "I want to show how
things feel to me rather
than how they look." ■



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Whittemore . . . from 1

a resident of South St. Anthony, also thought that the neighborhood desperately needed another restaurant, one with inventive and quality food.

Driving home from JD Hoyt's at 4:30 a.m., during the depths of Jan., he noticed a "For Rent" sign in the window of the old Pizza Cottage. Two months, and a bank loan later Mill City Cafe opened in mid-April of 1995 to critical accolades. The persnickery critics raved. Better, still, customers roared into the tiny space. It was, in sum, a restaurant owner's dream.

During Mill City's early months, Whittemore logged 80-hour weeks, but by the holidays he was dragging. He discovered a bruise on his body and stopped procrastinating about seeing a physician, who promptly hospitalized him. Bad news followed. On Dec. 30, Whittemore was diagnosis with leukemia and he left the hospital on New Year's Eve facing immortality.

Even though the combination of chemotherapy treatments and a bone marrow transplant offer the promise of recovery, Whittemore is savoring life.

He moved to the Twin Cities in 1980, although his family owns Minnesota roots. Before moving to Washington, D.C., his father chaired the English department at Carleton College. They left Northfield when his dad was appointed poet-in-residence to the Library of Congress.

Yet, Whittemore's literary pursuits are limited to reading cookbooks and golf guides. Always rebellious, he said flatly, "I was a bad kid" and by age 15 his father suggested that he take a vacation from school. He did, landing a job preparing sandwiches for a deli on Capitol Hill. For a time he lived a peripatetic life, but he always worked in the food industry. Along the way he completed high school and won a cooking degree.

His life philosophy remains constant: "You've got to live your life to the fullest. Don't get stagnant. I was getting stagnant. Breathe every second and experience life."

So, Jack Whittemore isn't giving up. "I'm a dreamer," he sighed. In fact, after the bone marrow transplant and after his recovery, he hopes to expand the restaurant.

"Viva Mill City," he sang. But commerce isn't Whittemore's sole life anchor. As Miles, adorable at age 4, tears across the lawn, he conceded, "He's made all of this make sense and he is why I have to fight and kick to get through this so that I can have the honor of living with him."

When asked how people can help, Whittemore said like a true businessman: "Keep eating at Mill City."

But the community has been assisting in other ways too. A recent fundraiser gathered money to help defray his medical expenses. And financial contributions can be mailed to the Jack Whittemore Fund, c/o Jay Goldberg, 2450 Metropolitan Center, 333 South 7th Street, Minneapolis 55402. ■

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Photo by Timbre Rogers

The fast and furious tilt-a-whirl is a favorite ride for young and old at Como Park, an amusement experience that, since 1947, continues to thrive under the careful and involved ownership of the O'Neil family.

The O'Neil's amusing rides at Como Park

by Barbara Clark

O'Neil Amusements boasts a 47-year history in Como Park, bringing fun and thrills to generations of youngsters. In fact, "let's go to the rides" is a common cry for those who live nearby. How the O'Neil family came to be synonymous with these rides harkens back to the Depression, when a young couple named Fred and Louise met.

Louise, a St. Paul native, met Fred at the State Fair, where he was working at a concession stand. Two years later, in 1934, they married.

"We were married during the Depression," Louise explained. "In those days there were no jobs — you had to make your own job." So, they did what millions of other did during those lean years and made a living doing what they could.

They sold novelties in Como Park for 10 cents each. They also bought two concessions stands there, which they manned on the weekends. In addition, Fred worked on various WPA projects, including the construction of Monkey Island in Como Park.

During World War II, the O'Neils worked for Phil Little, staffing concessions at state fairs. In 1946, Minnesota didn't have a fair. However, Little won the contract for concessions in Milwaukee. Since a polio epidemic swept through St. Paul that year, the O'Neils were anxious to move their boys — Ted and Fred Jr. — away. A deal was struck and Fred O'Neil became Little's new partner.

In 1949, the rides at Como Park came into existence under the ownership of O'Neil, Shankle and Little. They started with five small rides for the little ones — an American beauty merry-go-round, sky-fighter airplanes, tanks, the baby octopus and a boat ride. Tickets cost 9 cents for

children and 12 cents for adults.

During these years, Louise O'Neil moved from supporter to owner status through another stroke of fate. In 1951, there was a convention showcasing the latest rides and trends. One of the partners wanted to buy a train ride and Louise advanced \$1,000 for the purchase. The other partner backed out and Louise resolved to buy it. Thus, the G-16 train ride emerged at Como Park with Louise in the owner's seat.

In 1955, the O'Neils bought out their partners, becoming the sole owners of what is now known as O'Neil Amusements. In that same year, Louise gave birth to a baby girl, Leah.

Nowadays, three generations of O'Neils are involved in operating the rides and concessions. "It's a family affair," said Louise. She's not kidding. Even though the partnership is owned by her children, Louise occasionally still runs the ticket booth.

The grandchildren are also involved. Ted's son — Ted Jr. — maintains the rides, while Fred Jr.'s son — Fred III — heads the concessions area. And Leah's sons, Richie and Robbie, lend a hand in concessions too.

In the past 47 years, a number of things have changed. Fred Sr. died 11 years ago. The rides are bigger and there are more of them — 15 in all, including a merry-go-round, tilt-a-whirl and more. The tickets cost more, although they remain very reasonably priced at 50 cents each or \$5.25 for a book of 12.

"It's a beautiful business to be in," declared Louise. "It's been a good life." Her children agree. "It's nice out here with all the people," said Fred Jr., "you sure don't get lonesome."

They never advertise for employees or business. People just keep returning every year to work and the kids of yesterday bring their kids to experience the rides of today. ■

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NEIGHBORHOODS

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AARP meeting

Janet Kammer, director of volunteers for the Ronald McDonald House, is the featured guest at the Midway-Highland chapter of the AARP on Thursday, Aug. 15, at 1 p.m. The group meets at the Lyngblomsten Senior Center, 1298 Pascal Avenue. For information call 489-6738.

Don't pollute Como Lake

The environmental committee of the District 10 Como Community Council is striving to clean up Como Lake by making people aware of the negative effects of storm sewer drainage. Motor oil, anti-freeze, paint, pesticides, fertilizers and animal excrement are all inappropriate for dumping into storm sewer drains. For more information call 222-2193.

Lemke on block nurse board

Dean Lemke is now serving on the board of the Como Park Living at Home/Block Nurse Program. He worked for the Social Security Administration for 38 years and currently serves on the St. Paul Mayor's Advisory Committee on Aging.

— Barbara Clark

Avenue and Fulham Street.

Twin Picks, a bluegrass band, is performing from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Other activities include the ever-popular kiddie parade at 2:30 p.m., followed by games, including a water slide. Hot dogs, brats, baked beans and chips will be sold beginning at 4:30 p.m.

— Barbara Claussen

ST. ANTHONY PARK

ParkBank Diamonds Club picnic

The St. Anthony Park Diamonds Club second annual picnic is set for Tuesday, Aug. 20, at the Como Park Pavilion. The evening begins at 6 p.m. with a home-style meal. Entertainment by the St. Anthony Park Community Band follows dinner. The event costs \$5. Call 647-0131 for reservations.

Gazebo volunteers

Neighbors of Alden Square need volunteer carpenters. The group is building an old-fashioned gazebo this month in John Alden Square, a pocket-sized park between Brewster and Gibbs streets. Construction is set for the weekends of Aug. 10 and 17. Call 603-8895.

— Judy Woodward

LAUDERDALE

Day in the Park on July 28

Lauderdale's annual Day in the Park attracts ordinary citizens, politicians and lots of kids.

This year's event is set for Sunday, July 28, from 2:30 to 6:30 p.m., at the Community Park on the corner of Roselawn

Sports registrations

Registration for fall soccer continues through Aug. 2 at Langford Park. Boys and girls, ages 5 to 14, are welcome. Call 298-5765.

Valleyfair excursion for youth

Langford Park and South St. Anthony rec centers are hosting a trip to Valleyfair on Tuesday, Aug. 20. Call 298-5765. ■



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

26 FRIDAY

■ Bookmobile at Seal Hi-Rise, 825 Seal St., 11 a.m.-noon.

27 SATURDAY

■ FareSHARE distribution and registration at Holy Childhood Catholic Church, 1435 Midway Pkwy., 9:30-11 a.m. Call 644-7495; or St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, 2323 Como Ave., 8:30-10:30 a.m. Call 645-0371.

28 SUNDAY

■ Lauderdale Day in the Park, Community Park, Roselawn at Fulham, 2:30-6:30 p.m.

29 MONDAY

■ AA, St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, 8 p.m. Call 647-9446 or 770-2646. Every Monday.

30 TUESDAY

■ Toastmasters, Hewlett Packard, 2025 W. Larpenteur, 7:30 a.m. Call 649-4265. Every Tuesday.
■ St. Anthony Park Community Band rehearsal, Como Park High School Band Room, 7:30-9 p.m. Call 642-1559 or 646-4158. Every Tuesday.

31 WEDNESDAY

■ Leisure Center, St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Every Wed. except Aug. 21 and 28.
■ Midway Mid-day Toastmasters, Huntingdon Engineering, 662 Cromwell Ave., noon-1 p.m. Also Wed., June 19.

1 THURSDAY

■ Parent-child play group, South St. Anthony Rec Center, 890 Cromwell Ave., 10 a.m.-noon. Every Thurs.

■ St. Anthony Park Community Council Physical Planning Committee, South St. Anthony Rec Center, 890 Cromwell Ave. 5-7 p.m.

2 FRIDAY

■ Falcon Heights/Lauderdale recycling day.

6 TUESDAY

■ La Leche League meeting, 7 p.m. Call 644-0302 or 489-6356 for location.

■ National Night Out.

7 WEDNESDAY

■ Bookmobile at Hamline & Hoyt, 12:30-5:30 p.m.

■ St. Anthony Park Community Council, South St. Anthony Rec Center, 7 p.m.

8 THURSDAY

■ Retired U of M professor Gerhard Neubeck reads from his new collection of poems at Micawber's from 7 to 8 p.m.

9 FRIDAY

■ Bookmobile at Seal Hi-Rise, 825 Seal St., 11 a.m.-noon.

10 SATURDAY

■ Granny Sunshine at Micawber's from 11 a.m.-noon. Bring a hat for "Hats off to Summer."

12 MONDAY

■ Como Park recycling day.

■ Falconeers Senior Club, Falcon Heights City Hall, 1-3:30 p.m. Call 488-3361 or 644-0055.

13 TUESDAY

■ Lauderdale City Council, City Hall, 7:30 p.m.

14 WEDNESDAY

■ St. Anthony Park recycling day.

■ Falcon Heights City Council, City Hall, 7 p.m.

■ SAP Community Council Housing & Human Services Committee, South St. Anthony Rec Center, 5:30-7 p.m.

16 FRIDAY

■ Falcon Heights/Lauderdale recycling day.

19 MONDAY

■ Como Park recycling day.

20 TUESDAY

■ District 10 Como Community Council. Call 644-3889 for location.

21 WEDNESDAY

■ Bookmobile at Hamline & Hoyt, 12:30-5:30 p.m.

■ State Fair opens.

23 FRIDAY

■ Bookmobile at Seal Hi-Rise, 825 Seal St., 11 a.m.-noon.

26 MONDAY

■ Falconeers Senior Club, Falcon Heights City Hall, 2077 W. Larpenteur, 1-3:30 p.m.

■ St. Anthony Park Block Nurse Program, Board of Directors, St. Anthony Park Library, 7:30-9:30 p.m.

27 TUESDAY

■ Lauderdale City Council, City Hall, 7:30 p.m.

28 WEDNESDAY

■ District 12 recycling day.

■ St. Anthony Park recycling day.

■ Falcon Heights City Council, City Hall, 7 p.m.

2 MONDAY

■ Labor Day.

Photo by Truman Olson



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Items for the September Community Calendar must be submitted to the Bugle office by 6 p.m., Fri., Aug. 16.

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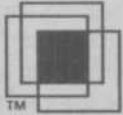
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O B I T U A R I E S

Isben Bakke

Isben O. Bakke, who lived on Malvern Street in Lauderdale for over 50 years, died on July 1, at the age of 97.

Bakke was born in Eden Township, Minn. After working at IBM for 37 years, he and his wife, Agnes, moved to downtown St. Paul.

Preceded in death by brothers, Elmer and Leo, he is survived by his wife, Agnes; daughter, June Joseph; son, Dennis; seven grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; brother, R. Bryan; and sisters, Mabel Swanson, Hazel Baglien, and Grace Hagen.

David Barte

David L. Barte, a teacher at Como Park High, Murrar Junior and Como Elementary, died on July 12, at the age of 58.

Barte was a member of Trinity United Methodist Church in Southeast Minneapolis. He and his wife ran a resort on the North Shore of Lake Superior.

In addition to his wife, JoAnn, he is survived by daughters, Karla, Heidi and Megan; sons, Peter and Anton; sister, Mary Mitchell; and brothers, William, James and Robert.

Quentin Elliott

Quentin Elliot, a 40-year resident of St. Anthony Park, died

at 76 years on June 28.

After graduating with chemical engineering degrees from Cal-Tech, Elliott worked on the pioneer development of solid rocket propellents and at the U.S. Naval Ordinance Test Station. For 26 years he worked at 3M.

Besides his activities at Hamline United Methodist Church, he served on the Hmong Ministries Community Council and the St. Anthony Park Community Council.

He is survived by his wife, Marilyn; and son, Quentin.

Gerald Giving

The Rev. Gerald Renaas Giving died at the age of 95 on June 23.

A long-time resident of St. Anthony Park, Giving worked as an editor at Augsburg Publishing for 25 years. He also served 28 interim parishes from 1968 until he retired in 1978. He was a member and former pastor at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church.

He is survived by daughters, Kirsten, Greta, and Ingrid; one granddaughter; and brother, Bob.

Howard Rod

Howard L. Rod, a 30-year resident of Lauderdale, died of cancer on July 10, at the age of 60.

Following graduation from DeLaSalle High School, Rod studied at the University of Minnesota. Then he became one of the first to work with gangs in St. Paul. He also worked for Children's Service and served as the director of Bremer House for delinquent boys.

In 1980, he founded Alternative Homes, which provided a family-like environment for emotionally disturbed youth. Two years ago, he started Provide Care Inc., in Chisago County.

A member of Corpus Christi Catholic Church and many social service agencies, Rod's pastimes included the outdoors, history, drawing, painting and gardening as well as his 18 grandchildren.

He is survived by his wife, Colleen; daughters, Cathy Miske, Susan Miske, and Erin Bergin; sons, Mike, Chris, Bill, Brian, Eric, and Kevin; and 18 grandchildren.

Dimitri Tselos

Dimitri Theodore Tselos died at the age of 96 on June 19. He lived on Branston Avenue in St. Anthony Park before moving to Falcon Heights.

Tselos was a professor emeritus of art history at the University of Minnesota.

Survivors include his wife of 61 years, Beatrice; son, George; daughter, Susan; and two grandchildren.

Compiled by Ann Bulger



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CHILDREN'S HOME SOCIETY CHILD CARE CENTER Roseville location. 16 months - 5 years. Call for more information: 636-4495.

ST. ANTHONY PARK NURSERY SCHOOL for children 3-5 years old meets Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday mornings. A friendly, creative space where teachers help children grow at their own pace. Apply now for Sept. 1996. Call Sheila Richter 644-9677.

PARK ANGELS DAY CARE. In Home Lic. Day Care. Fulltime Openings for Newborn, Preschool, Latchkey. 644-5516. SAP near Como & Doswell.

HOUSING

FOR SALE: Lauderdale stucco one & one-half story home with two bedrooms and three baths. charming mix of old and new. Beautiful built-in oak buffet. Huge master suite with full bath. Main floor family room with wood stove. Two car garage and privacy fenced backyard. Mid \$90's. 1714 Eustis St. Donna Anfinson, CRS, 633-0061, 645-5581, CENTURY 21 Jay Blank.

ONE, TWO, THREE AND FOUR BEDROOM APTS. Raymond, Knapp, Como vicinity. Some have hardwood floors, garages, built in bookcases, oak buffets, dining rooms, carpeted, great kitchens, lots of amenities. 645-1259

FOR SALE. 1887 Malvern St., Lauderdale. Great neighborhood. Three bedrooms, double attached garage, central air. You will love the newer addition with a wonderful kitchen, main floor laundry, and eating area with atrium door to deck. Huge remodeled bath, formal dining room, spacious master bedroom with walk-in closet and walk-thru to bath. Double lot.

\$92,500. Donna Anfinson, CRS 633-0061 or 645-5581 CENTURY 21 Jay Blank Realty.

FOR SALE. Popular Brandy Chase manor home, main level, no steps. Two bedrooms, two baths, fireplace, central air, appliances including washer and dryer. Great location next to University golf course and on campus and MTC bus line. Tennis court, pool, and garage. \$69,900. Donna Anfinson, CRS 633-0061 or 645-6681 CENTURY 21 Jay Blank Realty.

FOR RENT — St. Anthony Park — near, clean, 2 br. apts., newly dec., quiet. Call: 486-9653.

BUYING OR SELLING: Call a Certified Residential Specialist with over 25 years' experience. Lauderdale resident. Donna Anfinson, CRS, CENTURY 21 Jay Blank Realty, 633-0061 or 645-5581.

PROFESSIONAL COUPLE in their 30's seeks to make their home in St. Anthony Park. Need two bedrooms and plenty of storage. Hardwood floors and spacious kitchen a plus. No pets, no children. Hoping to create a haven away from the technology overload at work. Ready to move mid-August or September 1. Call 645-9663.

2286 Long: 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhome in St. Anthony Greens. 1 car garage. Private courtyard. Vaulted ceiling. \$66,500. Mary Jo Clasen, CRS 699-6666. Coldwell Banker Jambor.

NOTICES

ATTENTION FORMER AMWAY DISTRIBUTORS. Your Amway application may be worth up to \$3,000. For more information call Leah 633-3009.

FREEBIES

CLOTHESLINE POLES, steel, 5 hooks. 1538 Sheldon (behind garage).

WANTED

WANTED: Responsible individual 11:30 AM to Noon, M-F to feed two friendly dogs. Call Dale at 450-7991 or evenings at 645-7491.

TOP CASH PAID. Older Furniture (All Types)-Also Rugs-Pictures-Frames-Clocks-Toys-Lamps-Glassware-Bronzes-Indian Items-Crocks-Stained Glass Windows-Mirrors-Quilts-Dolls- Neon Signs-Duck Decoys-Fishing Items-"ANYTHING OLD". Call 227-2469 Anytime!!!!

WANTED: OLD TOYS-cast iron, die cast, tin. 644-1866

WANTED. Old fountain pens and related items. Days 870-2203, evenings 645-2460.

HOME SERVICES

WE SATISFY ALL YOUR PAINTING NEEDS. Professional painting, interior, exterior, paperhanging, patching, taping, staining, ceiling spray texturing. Water damage repair, and more. Family Business in the Park-40 years. Jim Larson, 644-5188.

REMODELING, ALL TYPES: carpentry and home repairs, kitchen and old house specialist. References. Licensed, bonded and insured. Call Mark for estimates. 488-6625.

CARPET CLEANING 2 Rm's \$29.95. Additional Rm's \$10.00. Call Larry 780-0907.

WE SPECIALIZE IN TRIM PAINT. Bob Finn & Son 488-2761.

FURNITURE REFINISHING AND REPAIR: Wood and metal stripping. Call Terry at Old Science Renovation Inc., 379-0300.

LaVALLE PAINTING. Interior & Exterior painting, patching, texturing, reasonable, prompt and professional. Insured, references. 483-9634.

ROTTEN WINDOW sills and trim replaced. Tom Oberg 698-3156.

SCHUFMAN BROS. QUALITY PAINTING, interior/exterior, textured ceilings and water damage repairs, professional service at affordable rates, local references, free estimates, insured; Jonathan, 481-0402; 645-5119 after 5.

LAVENDER MAID: A quality, reliable housecleaning service providing regular or occasional service. 724-0342.

GENERAL CONTRACTOR with old house experience. Repairs, replacements, additions of windows, doors, decks, roofs, etc. Kitchens, baths, and family rooms. Local neighborhood references are available. Call Terry 645-9369.

WALLPAPER HANGING, painting, wall preparation. D.J. Bellandi, 483-0419.

SUMMER BIG SUMMER SMALL if you love them I'll plant them all. One World Landscape, John. 379-2939.

PAINTING PLUS. Interior, exterior painting and staining. Specializing in spray textured ceilings. Free estimates. 646-8230

HOME REPAIR. Expert Carpentry, remodeling, additions, door and window replacement. Tom Oberg, 698-3156.

HILLIARD E. SMITH general contractor. Carpentry work, block, stone, cement work. Interior, exterior remodeling, insulation, underpinning porches. 46 years in the Park. Small jobs are our specialty. Licensed, bonded, insured. 644-0715.

CALL SWISS GARDENS for expert pruning, attentive garden maintenance, knowledgeable hand weeding and proper caring of your flower beds. 642-9985.

CLEANING. Established business. Thorough, honest, reasonable and St. A.P. resident seven years. Mary 646-1363.

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HOUSECLEANING—no job too small or big. Quality work you can always depend on! Rita 776-9534.

CARLSON PAINTING: Interior and Exterior, furniture repair/refinishing, wallpapering. Free estimates. 429-0894.

APPLIANCE REPAIR: Reasonable rates, friendly service. St. Anthony Park references. Call Ron Wagner at 491-1854 or 377-1310.

HOUSE CLEANING-EXPERIENCED. Reasonable rates. References available for estimates call Kathy 293-1105 or 224-3942.

DEADBOLTS INSTALLED, locks rekeyed. Free estimates. North Country Lock. 674-5644.

SASH CORDS REPLACED. Tom Oberg 698-3156.

HANDYMAN will do all the little jobs that no one else wants. 642-9985.

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ST. ANTHONY PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH NURSERY SCHOOL now accepting applications for fall. Sessions T, W, Th or M-F. Ages 3-5. 647-0039.

PERFORMANCE ASSOCIATES UNLIMITED MUSIC STUDIO. Experience counts! Vocal training/keyboard instruction designed to suit needs/interests of individual students, regardless of age or achievement level. Private/Group Classes and Workshops Offered. 487-0362

FOR SALE

INSULATED COMBINATION STORM/SCREEN DOOR, white, 29-29 1/2" like new, \$50. 646-2929.

LOOM FOR SALE: 10 harness, 56" Macomber loom. Used professionally. Wendy 644-7028.

MOVING SALE July 26 and 27, 9-5. Furniture — misc. 1496 Raymond.

SOFA AND LOVESEAT Cream and shades of blue. \$400. 645-1961.

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Sunday Mornings

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LUTHERAN CHURCH

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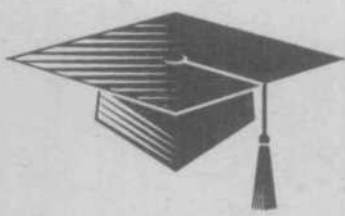


Illustration by Warren Hanson

PEOPLE

Congratulations graduates

Rachel J. Allyn, B.A.—Williams College; Peter F. Barry, J.D.—William Mitchell College of Law; Stephen Becerra, B.S.—Iowa State University; Jacob Dorer, B.A.—Gustavus Adolphus; Charesse Lavette Evans, J.D.—Hamline University School of Law; Gretchen A. Hall, J.D.—Hamline University School of Law; Heather Harrington, B.S.—Bemidji State University; Joyce Chapman Lebra; Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters—University of Minnesota; Frances Sutherland Louis, B.A.—Hamline University; Paul McLean, B.A.—University of Wisconsin at Stout; Michael Tressel, B.A.—Cornell College.

Pedaling against AIDS from 7

and through this affiliation learned that her intern from the previous year at Bane Holtzclaw was also participating.

To participate in the ride, cyclists were required to raise a minimum of \$2,300 from either individuals or corporations. Brutlag secured the funds through friends. In fact, many of her sponsors live in St. Anthony Park.

Brutlag said that day one was filled with both excitement and apprehension. Though she felt amply primed for the task before her, the prospect of bicycling from here to Chicago was still a bit daunting. Also, 80 to 90 degree weather heightened the risk of dehydration and heat exhaustion for all parties. She persevered, drinking between 5 to 10 bottles of water and or gatorade each day, and averaging about 14 miles per hour.

Then there was Friday, the second longest leg of the journey — 97 miles. "It was just really hot out that day. I was having a great ride, and then I started feeling bad. Really bad. When I finally made it to camp, I was relieved to find out that I was just dehydrated."

With danger averted, Brutlag, and every other participant, finished the ride without any other serious maladies and raised over 5 million dollars for the fight against AIDS.

Upon completion of the journey, Brutlag experienced a slight feeling of sorrow. "Any time a ride like this ends, you have a feeling of sadness. Everyone is there for everyone else, and you sort of feel like you're leaving a bunch of friends."

With one 450 mile ride to her credit, Brutlag is now preparing to ride across Minnesota at the end of July to raise money for multiple sclerosis.

"After that ride, this one should be a breeze," she enthusiastically declared. ■

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Sept. 23 Fall Lay School of Theology

First quarter of Lay School of Theology begins. Classes in "Discovering Islam and Meeting Muslims," "Dietrich Bonhoeffer," "History of Worship Practices," and "The Five Scrolls (Song of Songs, Esther, Ruth, Ecclesiastes, Lamentations)." Cost is \$40 per class or \$100 for one class each lay school session. For more information call 641-3416.

For more information: Office of Public Relations (612) 641-3520.
Luther Seminary "Welcome Line" (612) 641-3533.
To arrange for group tours, call (612) 641-3399.
Bookstore hours: Mon.-Fri., 10:30-5:00; Sat., 11:00-2:00.

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Pastor Bruce Petersen
Filipino-American Worship 11 am
Pastor Gonzalo Olojan

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1376 W. Hoyt Ave. 646-7127 Handicap-accessible
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Sunday Schedule (Nursery Provided)
Rides available for 10 am worship. Call 646-7127 by noon Friday
7:30 and 9:30 am Summer Choir Rehearsal
8 and 10 am Worship
(Communion 1st and 3rd Sundays)
9 am Children and Family Worship, Voice of Praise Rehearsal
August 25, one service only, 10 am at Como Lakeside Pavilion
Wednesday Schedule
6:45 am Bible Study at Key's/Lexington
6:30 pm Worship with communion (Nursery Available)
Friday Schedule
6:45 am Men's Breakfast Fellowship at CH Brown in Har Mar
Pastors Paul Harris and Rolf Jacobson
Director of Youth and Family Ministries, Tom Myers
Director of Music Ministries: Scott Rohr

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2131 No. Fairview at County Road B. 639-8888
Meaningful liturgies in a new worship space.
A welcoming community. Handicap-accessible
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Sunday Masses: 8:30 and 10:30 am

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Sunday Worship: 9 am

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Sunday Worship: 9:30 am Eucharist 1st and 3rd Sundays

ROSE HILL ALLIANCE CHURCH

Roselawn at Cleveland. 631-0173
Sunday Worship: 9:15 am
Sunday Coffee Fellowship 10:30 - 11 am
Sunday School 11 am
Sundays 6 pm Sr. Hi Group
Wednesdays Jr. Hi Group & Awana 6:45 pm (Sept. - May)
Wednesday Int'l. Women's American Culture Class 12:30 pm (Sept. - May)

ST. ANTHONY PARK LUTHERAN

Como and Luther Place. Handicap-accessible. 645-0371
Pastors: Paul Ofstedahl, Nancy Koester.
Sunday Worship: 8:45 and 11 am. Nursery at 8:45 service
Communion 1st and 3rd Sundays
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Visitors welcome.
Our van is available for transportation to and from services.

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2129 Commonwealth at Chelmsford. 646-7173
Sunday Worship: 9:30 am through Labor Day Weekend
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THE CHURCH WHERE EVERYONE IS ALWAYS WELCOME
Como and Hillside. 646-4859
Sunday Schedule
Worship 9:30 am
Fellowship 10:30
Wednesdays 9 am - 1 pm, Leisure Center with noon lunch

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Cromwell and Bayless Place. 644-4502
Saturday Mass: 5 pm
Sunday Mass: 10 am at church (nursery provided) and
8:30 am at Seal Hi-Rise, 825 Seal St. (handicapped accessibility)
Daily Mass: 7 am at the Parish Center
Holy Days Mass 7 am, 12:05 noon, 5:30 pm at the Hi-Rise

ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

2136 Carter at Chelmsford. 645-3058
Sunday Schedule:
8 am Holy Eucharist Rite I
9:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite II
Nursery and child care at both services
The Rev. Grant Abbott, Rector
The Rev. Lynn Lawyer, Deacon

WARRENDALE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1040 Como Ave. at Oxford. 489-6054
Sunday Worship: 10:15 am (nursery provided)
Sunday Church School: 9 am
Dr. Robert Bailey, Minister