

## Sewage troubles Lake Como's health

by John Marino

It isn't hard to do: drain your radiator in the alley and it ends up in Lake Como.

Leave grass cuttings on the sidewalk or sweep them into the street, they end up in Lake Como. Pesticides, fertilizers, pet waste and spent motor oil: they too roll downhill and into our beautiful neighborhood lake.

Lake Como is a source of tremendous community pride, but unfortunately, it's also a place where neighborhood lawn cuttings and dead leaves rot and stink, and where household chemicals eventually find their way into the cell walls of fish, plants and valuable microbes.

That's because Lake Como, although it is a natural lake, is also fed by sewer drains. If the sewer system from the surrounding neighborhoods didn't feed all the rain and melted snow runoff into Lake Como, the lake would probably be a dried up sandpit instead of a 70.5-acre body of water, which feeds into the Mississippi River. Pollute Lake Como and we pollute the mighty Mississippi.

Lake Como itself is fed by a pretty big watershed, extending into parts of Falcon Heights, Roseville and Maplewood.

There is a lot people can do to help make Lake Como cleaner and healthier, such as keeping our grass clippings on the lawn. Clippings are a natural fertilizer, rich in nitrogen, and help keep our lawns dark green and healthy.

According to the St. Paul Neighborhood Energy Consortium, grass cuttings left on your lawn are equal to one fertilizer application per year.

Autumn leaves will be falling in another month or two, so it's wise to remember to bag 'em up and haul them out to a Ramsey

*"Grass and leaves are one of the biggest sources of pollution," said Shelley Shreffler, the natural resources program manager for the St. Paul Neighborhood Energy Consortium.*

County compost site.

Don't leave them to blow down the sewage drains that will carry them into the lake. Or you can compost leaves yourself. Decaying leaves and grass add nutrients into the water that upset the delicate balance of plant and animal life that exists in Lake Como.

"Grass and leaves are one of the biggest sources of pollution," said Shelley Shreffler, the natural resources program manager for the St. Paul Neighborhood Energy Consortium.

It's hard to imagine that each individual resident can have such a large impact on Lake Como, but

it's true, Shreffler said. And just a little extra effort is all it takes.

"It is legal to rake leaves from the boulevards into the streets for the St. Paul sweepers to clean up," she added, "but the problem is that the sweepers only come by once. If it rains before that, the leaves get washed down the storm sewer."

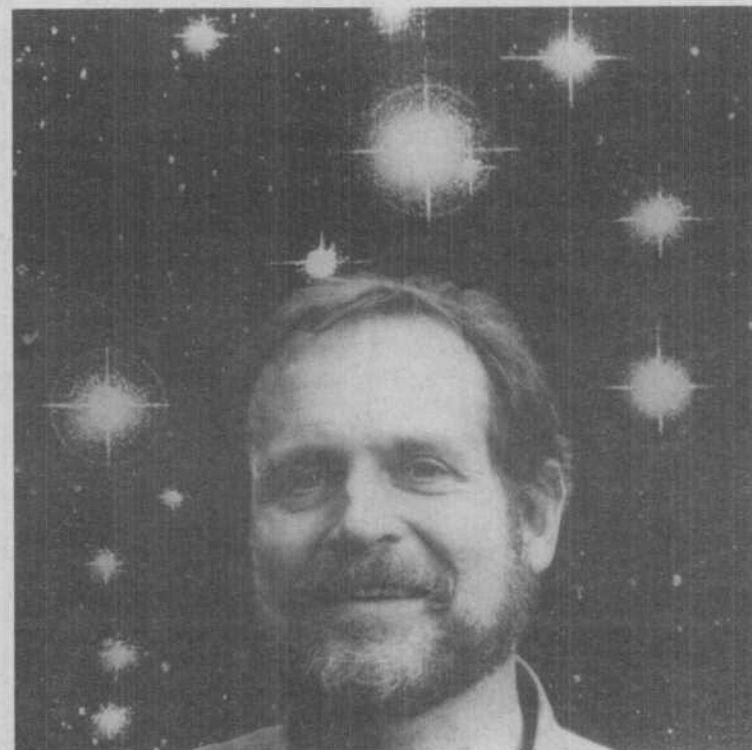
And into the lake.

"It's one of those things you can't force people to do."

A new educational campaign hopes to reduce the amount of organic matter that gets washed down the drain. Recently, the Como Community Council's Environment Committee received funding from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to send brochures outside St. Paul into the other Lake Como watershed communities of Falcon Heights and Roseville.

Another solution to the problem, Shreffler suggested, is aerating lawns. "Some of the lawns are so compacted, that rain water can't penetrate enough and that increases runoff." More aeration will allow more rain to soak into the soil. It also promotes root growth, which cuts down on soil erosion.

Another factor to consider is sedimentation. If you've dislodged soil in your yard or garden through remodeling, or some other type of construction project, that loose dirt can get washed down the storm sewers and into the lake. The key is to keep it in your yard and stop it from running into Lake Como. ■



## It's in the stars — Astronomer Bob Gehrz

by Judy Woodward

Ask Bob Gehrz about his work and the president-elect of the American Astronomical Society (AAS) will discourse soberly about the ways in which the discoveries of astronomy can advance the technological interests of modern society. Push Gehrz a little harder and a complementary truth emerges. "Astronomy is a lot of fun. The whole thing is great!" he admitted, sounding more like the teenage boy who once built his own telescope than the senior professor of astronomy at the University of Minnesota that he is now.

Gehrz, a resident of University Grove in Falcon Heights, will serve as leader of the 6,500-member AAS for the next four years. His term of office will include the organization's 1999 centenary. As he prepared to take the organization, which is the largest group of professional astronomers in North America, into the 21st century, Gehrz was reflecting on the appeal his field holds even for non-scientists.

"Part of it is the lure of the sky. People are interested in the lure of star watching," Gehrz added that another attraction of astronomy for the public is that it's one of the few scientific fields which depends on amateurs. "The amateurs discover things like comets," he noted. "The pros don't look at the same place in the sky night-after-night. That's something that amateurs can do without technical training. They take pictures day after day and look for things that move." Gehrz explained that amateur astronomical observations are posted via the "daily telegram" (which nowadays arrives by e-mail) to professional astronomers. "And we scan those every day before we go out to observe."

But there's another reason for astronomy's appeal, according to Gehrz. "Astronomy deals with things like how the universe began, how life began. Origins, whether of life or of the planets, are the key to the whole thing. When I teach astronomy classes, I include physics, geology, chemistry, biology — astronomy covers all sciences."

On a less exuberant note, Gehrz pointed out one thing that astronomy definitely does not cover. "It bothers me a lot," he said,

Bob Gehrz to page 6

## Benanav faces 3 opponents on Sept. 9

by John Marino

Mark Roosevelt said he doesn't want to sound too cocky, but he is confident that he will receive enough votes in the September 9 primary to run for the Ward 4 City Council seat in the November general election.

"I'm seeing a trend that independent candidates are getting elected," said Roosevelt, a former Minneapolis neighborhood activist living in the Hamline-Midway neighborhood.

Roosevelt is one of four candidates vying for primary votes. Other candidates include Jay Benanav, the DFL-endorsed candidate, plus Javier Aravena and Anthony Sanders.

Neither Aravena nor Sanders could be reached for comment.

The top two vote getters in the primary advance to the November election and the winner takes Bobbi Megard's

City Council seat.

"I don't believe in partisan politics being in city government," said Roosevelt, who is completing a pre-law bachelor's degree from Metropolitan State University. He also works at the University of Minnesota as an insurance reimbursement analyst.

"I think a little bit more money could be going into the neighborhoods, but if we can keep a balance between neighborhood development and downtown investment, I'd be all for it," added Roosevelt, who ran unsuccessfully for the Minneapolis City Council in 1993.

Roosevelt is challenging Benanav, who ran a very solid campaign to earn the DFL endorsement.

Benanav emerged from the April 12 DFL endorsing convention with 49 percent of the delegates voting for him on the first ballot.

A small business owner for the past nine years, Benanav was a counsel for the State Senate and was deputy commissioner of the state labor and industry department for five years in the 1980s. Benanav points to his experience as a key to consensus building on the City Council.

"At least four of the seven Council members will be new, and what that does is reaffirm that we need people on the City Council who have experience." ■



## ON THE INSIDE

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## St. Anthony Park Community Council

## NEWS

**The St. Anthony Community Council meets the second Wednesday of each month in the South St. Anthony Recreation Center, 890 Cromwell Avenue. Meetings are open to the public, and neighbors are encouraged to attend. If you wish to be put on the agenda, please contact the office at 292-7884.**

**At the August meeting of the St. Anthony Park Community Council, the following motions were made:**

- A motion to approve the revised bylaws of University United was approved by the Council. The Community Council is a member organization of University United.
- A motion to lodge an appeal with the City Council regarding the approval of a variance for Midwest Outdoor Advertising and Universal Outdoor, Inc. for the setback and height variance on two billboards on I-94 and Vandalia Street by the Planning Commission was approved by the Council.
- A motion to send a letter to the City Council regarding the Community Council's opposition to violations by Burlington Northern of their non-conforming use permit at their Intermodal Hub Facility was approved by the Council.
- A motion to request the City Council to remove Como Avenue as a Truck Route was approved by the Council.

## National Night Out

Thanks to all of the blockclubs that participated in National Night Out. Several of you held block parties and cookouts despite the rain! The Community Council appreciates your efforts to prevent crime in the neighborhood, and your hard work in getting the word out about crime prevention.

## Garage Sale

The St. Anthony Park Community Council will sponsor a neighborhood garage sale on September 13, 1997. For a small fee, the Council will advertise the sales in the Pioneer Press, Star Tribune and other publications in the Twin Cities. A map showing all the sale locations, as well as lawn signs, will be provided. Please call the Community Council at 292-7884 for more details and an application. This is a great opportunity to clean out some of your extra "stuff"!

## Neighborhood Clean-up

Another great way to clean out your house is the annual neighborhood clean-up. This year, the St. Anthony Park Community Council and the Como Park Community Council are hosting a joint clean-up at the north end of the Fairgrounds on Hoyt and Snelling Avenue on September 27. We will be accepting general refuse, furniture, mattresses, scrap metal, car parts, batteries, carpet, concrete, asphalt, rock, tires, tv's, radios, and other small appliances, and brush no larger than 6" diameter. We cannot accept any household hazardous waste, including paint, oil, paint thinners, strippers, solvents, pesticides, herbicides, freon, or railroad ties. Recyclables — cans, bottles, and newspapers — can be recycled on regular curbside recycling every other Wednesday (call if you are unsure of the schedule). If you would like to volunteer to help during the clean-up, please call the office at 292-7884. If you are elderly or handicapped, please call the Community Council to make arrangements for a pick-up on or before September 24 at 292-7884.

## New Networker Format

Look for the new and improved *Networker* in your mailbox in mid-September. The Council would like your input on our new format and news content. As always, the newsletter will have crime prevention news, community news, and neighborhood reports. If you have information for the *Networker*, please mail or bring the copy to the SAPCC office, 890 Cromwell Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55114. Copy must be received no later than September 1, 1997. The newsletter is published bi-monthly, and we will make every effort to accommodate submissions based on space available, timeliness, and relevance to the neighborhood.

Council-sponsored meetings are listed each month in the Bugle Community Calendar (see page 17).  
Everyone is welcome!

Office: 890 Cromwell, St. Paul, MN 55114

292-7884

District 12 Executive Director: Heather Worthington

Members: Bob Arndorfer, Joann Benesh, Emma Beyer, Kenneth Chin-Purcell, Ron Dufault, Terrance Gockman, Ken Holdeman, Deborah Kuehl, Nowell Leitzke, Alice Magnuson, Jack McCann, Suanne Olson, Jim Snaxell, Ellen Watters and Carol Weber.

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

## Music in the Park features Music with Words

by Barbara Claussen

**T**he St. Anthony Park-based Music in the Park series begins its 19th season with accolades and recognition for excellence on several fronts.

Artistic Director Julie Himmelstrup garnered the prestigious national Champion of New Music Award presented by the Composers Forum. Her commitment to new works has enhanced the chamber music series since its inception in 1979.

Besides Himmelstrup's award, the organization received their largest grant ever — \$15,000 from the Harlan Boss Foundation for the Arts. Also, the State Arts Board granted Music in the Park \$12,000, a \$7,000 increase over prior funding made possible by the state legislature's approval of the Arts Initiative.

Arts board panelists commended the series for high artistic quality, remaining true to their mission, contributing to the community, and "not being interested in growing larger just to grow larger."

Himmelstrup is ecstatic. "It just represents a real value put on what we're doing. It really helps to make us more viable in the community."

The grants will facilitate more outreach. She envisions additional programs in the schools as well as master classes.

"We can make use of artists while they are in town," she said. "They don't just come in, do one concert and then leave. They become more a part of the community."

Then there's the music. This season promises an exciting array of concerts featuring a Music with Words theme.

The Mendelssohn String Quartet opens the series on Sunday, October 19, with Janacek's *Quartet No. 1* based on Tolstoy's *The Kreutzer Sonata*. Robert Mann, first violinist for 50 years in the Juilliard String Quartet, will perform with the quartet in Mendelssohn's *String Quintet*.

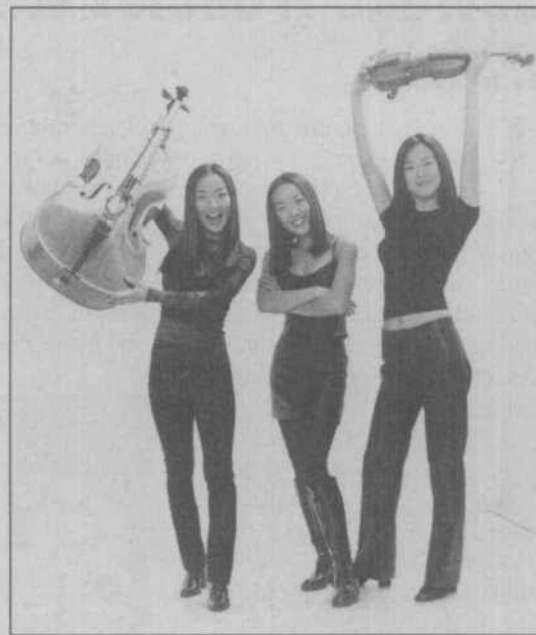
Having established a reputation for inventive and imaginative programming, they will also perform Haydn's *Quartet in D Major*.

On November 16 trumpet virtuoso Stephen Burns and soprano Beverly Hoch turn toward *Baroque and Americana*,

a program spotlighting arias by Bach, Handel, and Scarlatti plus American parlor favorites by Foster, Joplin, and Sousa.

Regarded as one of North America's leading guitar ensembles, the Minneapolis

*Look forward to the Ahn Trio's performance in February.*



Guitar Quartet is set to perform on Sunday, January 11. Their program features commissions and premieres that reflect the ensemble's pioneering efforts in developing new works for guitar quartets.

*Music in the Park to page 3*



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*Savor September*



## Tilden Park on track for playground improvements

by John Marino

Wendi Schirvar walks her two small children to tiny Tilden Park as often as she can. It's six blocks from her house, which is located just five blocks from the main entrance to Como Park. But it's quality that Wendi wants, not quantity.

"The playground at Como Park is so overused. A lot of schools and daycare centers use it," she said.

But the intimate charm of Tilden Park was beginning to get lost amid all the broken glass and splintering, outdated playground equipment.

"Over the years that we've been going there, I've seen it deteriorate. And that was an invitation for others to use it. I saw more broken bottles and more cars being broken into. So last year, I called up Como Community Council — District 10 and asked, 'How do you renovate a playground?'"

The answer — \$294,000. This chunk of money was recently recommended by the Capital Improvement Budget (CIB) Committee.

Now, the recommendation must still face a third and final public hearing and then a City Council vote, but of 135 projects the Tilden Park renovation ranked tenth on the committee's list of priority projects.

Projects from all over St. Paul are proposed to the CIB,

and get ranked based on a list of about 16 criteria. The total CIB budget for two years worth of projects is approximately \$60 million. Chances are very, very good that the tenth ranked project will be approved by the City Council.

"It is very long overdue," said nearby resident Cate Smith Edlund. "The park is in pretty sad shape. The equipment is very outdated. It's metal, and new equipment doesn't have exposed edges."

Not only will the playground equipment get a major overhaul, but the park will get more lighting, a key element to making it a safer place.

"The park is dark," said Smith Edlund, the co-chair of the Como Community Council, "and has become a real hangout spot."

Both women said it has attracted underage drinkers, but they were also quick to add that the idea behind renovating the park wasn't just to make it more kid-friendly.

"The plan encompasses all age groups," Wendi said. "We want to maintain the open space, but not build a formal ball field. That way people could play informal games. Right now, it doesn't look inviting, but it says a lot about our neighborhood if we maintain it."

If approval passes, Tilden Park renovation will begin next year. ■

## Music in the Park . . . from page 2

The three Korean-born sisters of the Ahn Trio demonstrate their virtuosity on the violin, cello, and piano on Sunday, February 15 at 4 p.m. Their dedication to the commissioning and performance of new music has led to significant additions to the piano trio repertoire. Here, they will perform trios by Shostakovich, Arensky, and works written for the ensemble by American composers Jeffrey Nitch, Kenji Bunch, and Eric Ewazen.

Violin virtuoso Jorja Fleezanis — concertmaster of the Minnesota Orchestra — takes center stage on Sunday, March 29 at 4 p.m. Fleezanis' Music in the Park appearance includes a work especially composed for her by British composer Nicholas Mew. She will be joined by her Minnesota Orchestra colleagues in Messiaen's powerful *Quartet for the End of Time*.

Next, on April 26, the Lark Quartet performs the Minnesota premiere of a new work by Aaron Kernis. Currently in residence with the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, Kernis is considered one of the most gifted modern young American composers. The Naumberg Award-winning Lark Quartet has established its reputation with audiences and critics as an ensemble of the highest artistic integrity.

Music in the Park's grand

finale on May 10 features Mark O'Connor, master of the violin, mandolin and guitar. O'Connor takes his audiences on a journey through American musical styles — from bluegrass, classical, jazz, blues, Appalachian folk songs, to Texas swing. *Appalachia Waltz*, the acclaimed recording from Mark O'Connor, Yo-Yo Ma, and Edgar Meyer, recently made history by becoming the first

**State Arts Board panelists commended Music in the Park for high artistic quality, remaining true to their mission, contributing to the community, and "not being interested in growing larger just to grow larger."**

album to appear on both classical and Americana charts.

All concerts are held at St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ, 2129 Commonwealth at Chelmsford.

Music in the Park Series season tickets are \$60 to \$70. Single tickets range from \$12 advance (\$15 at the door) to \$20. Student rush tickets are \$6.

Buy tickets at the Bibelot Shop and Micawber's Bookstore, or call 646-5266. ■

## Renters...

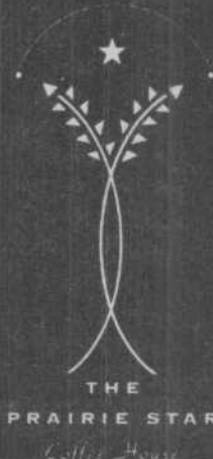
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# EDITORIAL

## Public spaces

Public spaces get a lot of notice around here. There's an effort to cleanup Lake Como. Around the corner from the lake, neighbors are working hard to upgrade Tilden Park. These are, of course, public spaces in the best sense of the word — accessible, beautiful and recreational. Still, as the debate over free speech at the Mall of America reveals, public spaces exist outside of the Department of Parks and Recreation's dominion. The neighborhood coffee house is fast becoming the gathering ground for meditative expressions, great conversation and wonderful coffee. Not only does this area boast several cafes — from the Coffee Grounds in Falcon Heights to Laurie's and Taste of Scandinavia in St. Anthony Park — there are now new kids on the block near the corner of University and Raymond called Prairie Star Coffee House and Sacred Grounds. That busy intersection is not without it's struggles, but their arrival demonstrates that the area is a downright viable commercial hub with a down-home neighborhood twang. Visit soon. ■

## Poetic leanings

No, the Bugle isn't the *Paris Review* or even the *Atlantic Monthly*, but this issue of the Bugle definitely takes a literary twist. On this page Jonathan Skovholt asks neighbors what's on their bed-time reading list. Later, in the center piece, Laura Pritchett visits the rare book collection at Luther Seminary, a truly fascinating civic treasure. Then, let's return to page 5, where Todd Boss contributes another beautiful poem to our pages. All of this good stuff makes us want to rush out and find a top-notch read. Should you visit a bookseller, please make it an independent one, a rare bird on the Twin Cities' retail scene. So, go ahead and go back to school with the little ones — read a little magic and enhance your life. ■

### Next issue September 25

#### Deadlines:

Display ads .....September 11

News & classifieds .....September 12

# PARK BUGLE

2301 Como Avenue, Box 8126, St. Paul, MN 55108  
646-5369 ■ bugle@minn.net

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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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## LETTERS

### More kudos for July 4 volunteers

Fifty years is something to celebrate and we did on July 4! The St. Anthony Park Association celebrated its 50th anniversary coordinating the 4th in the Park — an event that would not happen without the involvement, year after year, of our neighbors who give so generously to this old-fashioned get-together. On behalf of the

St. Anthony Park Association (SAPA), I want to thank two individuals whose contributions were not recognized in the August issue of the Bugle: Warren Hanson and Gerald McKay. Warren designed and donated the eagle logo commemorating the 50th and Gerald coordinated the gathering of the SAPA past presidents who rode in the parade.

— Sandee Kelsey, chair,  
1997 4th of July Committee

### Milton Square flood

I wish to thank everyone who helped out following our mini-tornado wind and sewer damage failures on July 1. Despite the damage to Milton Square, many people deserve credit. I want to thank many neighbors who offered their help quietly, those who left fruit and cookies on my office chairs for the workers and my tenants who are

cooperating and trying hard to reopen their shops. I also thank Mayor Coleman and his staff for offering their services.

So, after all this trouble it's time to celebrate and show our appreciation — come to the 10th anniversary of our Scottish Flair at Milton Square on October 4.

— Mary Ann Milton,  
president of Milton  
Investments

### Didn't know the Bugle was a poetic instrument,

## didja?

Well, November's issue should prove it to you beyond a doubt. Because that's when we'll publish our neighborhood's best lines in a special section, and blow horns for some of our very own poets. If you live in the area, put a stamp on your favorite poems, and send them in to:

Todd Boss, poetry editor  
Park Bugle  
PO Box 8126  
St. Paul, MN 55108

You don't need a Pulitzer to enter; anyone in the Bugle's readership area is eligible. We're not calling this a competition, and all ages and abilities are encouraged. Send as many poems as you like, of any length, one poem per page, and be sure your name, address, and phone number are printed on every page submitted. Poems cannot be returned unless accompanied by a stamped self-addressed envelope. To be considered, poems must be received by September 22, 1997.

### Correction

Our sincere apologies. The front-page story in our August issue called "Crime challenges area's serenity" incorrectly identified Thomas Stack as Robert Stack. Our error.

## From the Bugle archives:

20 YEARS AGO . . . Muffuletta opens . . . Heritage Preservation Commission nominates McGill House to list of historic sites. . . Bugle publishes community calendar . .

15 YEARS AGO . . . St. Anthony Park Community Band organizes . . . City talks about reducing St. Anthony Park Branch Library's services. . . Georgette Pfannkuch directs Les Amis du Theatre, a French-language acting troupe. . .

10 YEARS AGO . . . Victory House Executive Director Lyle Tollefson faces theft charges . . . Patrick Dean becomes minister of St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ . . .

5 YEARS AGO . . . St. Anthony Park Branch Library celebrates 75th year. . . Lauderdale Park receives updating . . .

1 YEAR AGO . . . Proposed South St. Anthony billiard hall incites neighborhood conflict. . . Nasty smell travels through area . . . Mill City Cafe closes. . .

## Q & A

### What was the favorite book that you read over summer?



Larry

*I Love This Game* by Kirby Puckett. He talked about his retirement, and what he liked and disliked about baseball.



Rose Ann

*No Ordinary Time* by Doris Godwin. It is a biography about the strength of Eleanor Roosevelt.



John

*The Leaf Man* by William Joyce. I really like this book because of the illustrations. It's also a good children's story.



Elizabeth

Samantha books from the *American Girls Collection*. The pictures are great.

Photographs and interviews by Jonathan Skovholt



# COMMENTARY



## Diary of a Meals-on-Wheels volunteer

by Michelle Christianson

Last month I experienced what for me was a small sadness, although for Bill and his family I'm sure it was a major trauma. Last month, Bill, who has been on my Meals-on-Wheels route for over ten years, went into a nursing home.

I had known (or at least known about) Bill before I even started driving. His daughter graduated from Murray High School with my husband, and I knew that he had been involved with the St. Paul public schools most of his adult life. But a stroke had left him unable to work, and he received a hot meal every day of the week.

I know that many of those who receive the meals I deliver won't see any other people that day, so I make it a point to exchange some pleasantries with everyone. In the early years Bill always told me that I was a "good kid" and asked about my husband. We would sometimes talk about his daughter or the piano that sat in his living room. After the last stroke, though, he concentrated on getting from his recliner to his wheelchair (he always wanted me to watch to make sure he didn't fall). His world had become very small.

Although I only see those on my route once or twice a month for only a few minutes, I still am interested in them and care about what happens to them. Over the years some of my "customers" have moved away to live with their children, gone into nursing homes and yes, inevitably, some have died. I worry when I see someone declining or when it appears that they haven't been eating well.

I always talk with Jeannie Leifeld, the director of the Meals-on-Wheels program at Merriam Park Community Center, before and after delivering the meals. We sometimes discuss what's happening to people and she will step in if someone needs help. Of course, we also talk about kids, the weather, local happenings and just plain laugh a lot.

There are joys as well as worries involved with this job. Sometimes there is a new grandchild to celebrate or a visit from children. A couple of times my daughter dressed up as a clown and helped me deliver, which gave people a lift.

In the course of our conversations, I sometimes find out about the interesting lives people have lived. They show me their knickknacks, unique homes and pets. I have seen photographs from missionary work of 50 years ago and greeting cards from a

50th wedding anniversary. I have made dear friends.

Sometimes there are small tasks I can do to help people. I bring in the paper or the mail or take the monthly payment back to the office. There was one time I couldn't help though. One of my favorite ladies met me at the door asking if I knew how to get into the trap under the toilet. She had gotten sick and flushed her dentures away! Luckily that's not my area of expertise. She didn't hold it against me though; even after she moved away, she would send me a Christmas card.

Weather often makes delivering meals a challenge. People still need to eat even if there is a blinding snowstorm or a heavy downpour. I even have a special pair of shoes that I wear when the weather is cold and slushy. (I hate cold, wet feet!) My children have helped me deliver on those days, too. Come to think of it, this has been good training for them in community service.

You may wonder who gets Meals-on-Wheels. You probably know someone who does. They are older and handicapped. Maybe they just got out of the hospital or sometimes forget to eat so that their children want to make sure they get one good meal a day. Maybe they set it up themselves as a convenience or perhaps a Block Nurse arranged for the meals as part of their care.

Meals are paid for on a sliding scale according to ability to pay. They are also subsidized by voluntary contributions, United Way funds and federal, state and county monies. We who deliver are volunteers, paid by the satisfaction of knowing that we have performed a valuable service and the joy of small human contacts.

So, now I will not be delivering meals to Bill, one of my small human contacts. There will, of course, be someone to take his place, but I will miss him. I wish him the best in his new home.

(If you have time in the middle of the day and would like to perform a needed community service, call Judy Probst at 644-0492. You won't regret it.) ■

### UTILITY

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picking stones

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— Todd Ryan Boss

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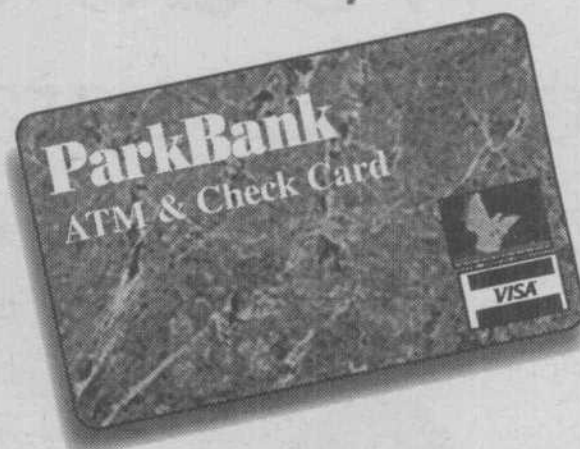
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**Bob Gehrz . . . from page 1**

"when people confuse astronomy and astrology. People call the astronomy department all the time asking us to do calculations showing where the planets will be at a certain time. I try to tell them that astrology is more like a religion than a science and that there's no scientific basis for it." Gehrz paused, "I don't usually convince them, though."

To hear Gehrz tell it, the genuine discoveries of astronomy should be dazzling enough to convert any astrologer. Not long ago, for example, Gehrz and his fellow researchers found,

**But there's another reason for astronomy's appeal, according to Gehrz.**

**"Astronomy deals with things like how the universe began, how life began.**

**Origins, whether of life or of the planets, are the key to the whole thing."**

**When I teach astronomy classes, I include physics, geology, chemistry, biology — astronomy covers all sciences."**

well, stardust. "We were looking at the Hale-Bopp comet," he explained, "and we found ultra-fine dust grains in the tail of the comet. We've never seen such small dust granules. The effect was to make the sparkling tail extra bright."

Then there are the exciting discoveries being made by the Mars Pathfinder mission. Gehrz explained that the pictures of boulders on Mars transmitted in recent weeks back to Earth are only the first step in a planned exploration of the Red Planet which will last into the next century. Bringing back Martian rocks is an upcoming step, and interplanetary travel is not an impossible goal, according to Gehrz. When will humans land on Mars? "If we had the national will, we could do it by 2020," he responded, although he conceded that a more realistic timetable would place manned exploration of Mars "well into the next century."

Gehrz set his sights on the stars at an early age. He said he "was turned on to astronomy" while a student at St. Paul's Central High. A teacher there introduced him to a professor at Macalester College who built telescopes. Before long, young Gehrz was building his own. He even entered his homemade telescope in the 1960 Minnesota State Fair.

Gehrz has been building bigger and better telescopes ever since. After getting his B.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota, he became an assistant professor at the University of Wyoming. While at Wyoming, Gehrz spearheaded, in 1979, the construction of what was at the time the world's largest infrared telescope. Now he's involved in NASA's

Space Infrared Telescope Facility (SIRTF). He described SIRTF as a "follow-up to the Hubble Space Telescope. It will make an all-new picture of the sky by the year 2001."

Gehrz does most of his stargazing through infrared telescopes, which make use of extra long light waves allowing observer to "see," for example, inside dust clouds in outer space.

Skeptics might be willing to grant Gehrz the fun of it all, but what, they wonder, is the practical value of astronomy. Gehrz responded as if he enjoyed the question. He quickly rattled off a list of technological benefits that have come from basic research in astronomy. From a basic understanding of nuclear fusion to the gravitational implications of satellite orbits to the discovery of the element helium, astronomy plays a part, said Gehrz. "The whole point of astronomy is to understand the ways physics works on the universe," he explained.

Astronomy is only one of Gehrz's passions. Tall and lanky with the look of a man who can still fit into his high school football uniform, the 53-year-old Gehrz described himself as "normally the oldest guy on the ice." He plays ice hockey in three or four different leagues — none of them in the senior division, Gehrz pointed out proudly.

Gehrz took up ice hockey in his mid-30s when he began coaching his son's team. The son has long since graduated to college football, but Gehrz remains faithful to hockey, playing as many as three games a week.

When Gehrz is on the ice, his fans include his wife, Sue, who is the mayor of Falcon Heights, and his son and daughter, both students at the University of Minnesota.

Gehrz sounded nearly as enthusiastic about ice hockey as he did about the future of astronomy. Although he has no plans at the moment to promote himself to the senior leagues, Gehrz likes to point out that he's seen "articles in the American Association for Retired Persons newsletter about guys in their 60s and 70s who are still playing hockey."

And if the future doesn't hold hockey, there's always astronomy. "Astronomy is in a golden age," said Gehrz happily. Still fun, still great, according to the first AAS President for the next millennium. ■

Photo by Truman Olson

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## Remodeling Concepts



by  
**Peter Hagen, CR**

## A COMMERCIAL MESSAGE

Those who wish to incorporate restaurant style ranges or refrigerators into their remodeled kitchens should be sure that their selections are compatible with their kitchen size, appearance, and function, as well as their lifestyles. Many manufacturers of commercial grade appliances offer so called "professional" lines for home use. Aside from exacting a heftier toll from the appliance budget, commercial style appliances may require additional floor support or upgraded insulation. For these reasons, homeowners with a taste for commercial grade appliances are advised to discuss their choices with their contractors very early in the remodeling process. Some commercial appliances do not meet community safety standards and are not safe or practical for home use.

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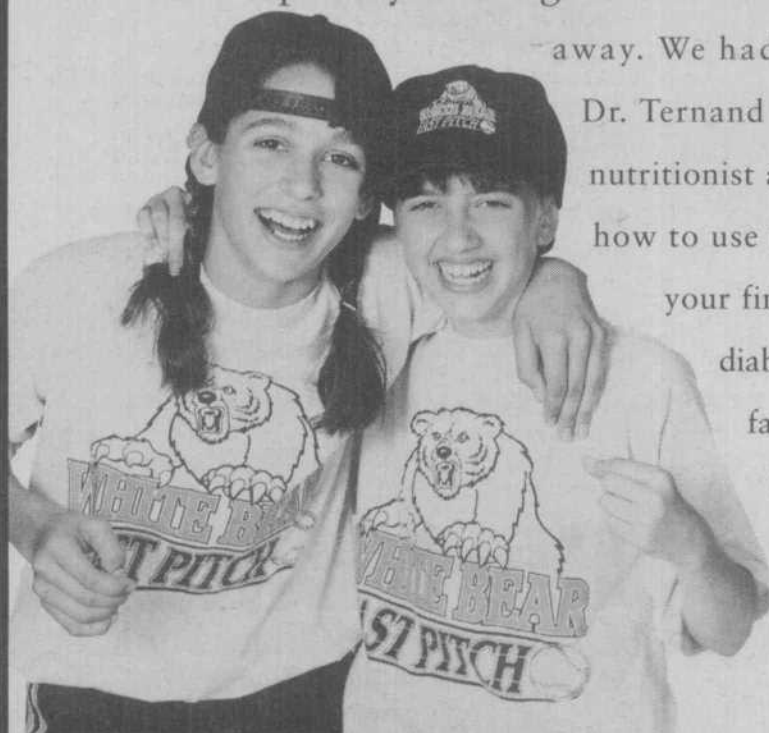
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## Good to the last drop: Prairie Star's coffee

by Natalie Zett

One reason I love returning to the small town where I was born is that nothing much has changed there over the past 100 or so years. I especially love visiting my grandmother's house. Though she's been gone for a while, my uncle has kept the place as she had. Most of the furniture, including kitchen table and chairs, was built by my grandfather. It's been painted many times over using whatever paint was available. It could safely be described as "unintentional kitsch." I love lingering there surrounded by pleasant memories of simpler times. It's also a far cry from the flurry of activity that characterizes my life here. I only need to be there briefly to become rejuvenated.

I had that same feeling after my recent visit to the Prairie Star Coffee House. The "Star"—one of the newer enterprises on University and Raymond—opened in July. Located in the space previously occupied by Susan's Coffeehouse & Deli, the Prairie Star is already drawing in customers.

The distinctive awning, with the name plus star and wheat logo, caught my attention. Inside, I found a bright, airy space with saffron yellow walls, high ceilings, and eclectic furnishings, including stained glass windows, orange and lime green chairs, a bookcase and a 75-year-old Singer sewing machine. Just like that visit to grandma's!

It's clean and bright. The owners and staff are some of the friendliest folks in town. The ample dining space has lots of tables and chairs around. There's room for studying or intimate

conversation.

The Prairie Star Coffee House owners, Teresa Connor and Cory Howard, began seeking a new space for their four-year-old business earlier this year. They were impelled to do so because the lease for the coffeehouse, previously located in Minneapolis' warehouse district, was up.

When asked about this location choice, Connor stated, "We did a lot of searching and then this space found us."

Connor, a social worker by trade who still maintains a

Howard and Connor, who have known each other for 15 years, have similar goals. For both women, the coffeehouse is not just a business, but a place where they can bring their own talents and visions into fruition.

"First and foremost," said Connor, "we want people to know that anyone who comes in peace is welcome here."

Howard added, "We've tried to create a comfortable, safe, and beautiful space. Beauty is important to everyone. I don't know of anyone who doesn't



private practice, loves cooking and carrying out the coffee house's daily operations.

"We love this location," She continued. "We have, so far, a diverse and interesting clientele: artists, truckers, and business people, to name a few!"

According to Cory Howard, her main function in the business is schmoozing. This entails overseeing the event planning and public relations.

Howard is also enjoying this location and stated, "We needed a space to grow into and we found the perfect place. It's really been a blessing."

appreciate a clean, pretty place, no matter who they are."

The crux of their business, though, is coffee and food. They are totally committed to offering, whenever possible, organically-grown coffee and food. They try, as much as possible, to use local resources. For instance, their coffee roaster is located in Duluth. The milk that makes their to-die-for lattes and cappuccinos comes from the Gemini Guernsey Farms, a small, family-owned operation in Palisade, Minnesota.

*Prairie Star to page 20*

## TWO Great Community Events!

### St. Anthony Park Garage Sale

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**Saturday, September 13, 1997**

Call the SAPCC for registration forms and more information at 292-7884

### Como Park and St. Anthony Park Neighborhood Clean-Up

Co-sponsored by District 10 and District 12

**Saturday, September 20, 1997**

8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

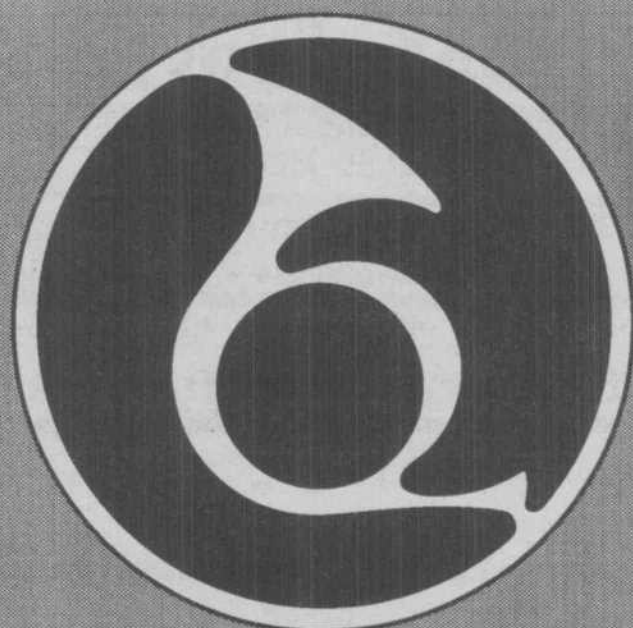
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See the SAPCC Column for details on these two events!



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**NOV. 16 BEVERLY HOCH, soprano**  
4 PM **STEPHEN BURNS, trumpet**  
with cello and piano/harpsichord

**JAN. 11 MINNEAPOLIS GUITAR QUARTET**  
4 PM Alan Johnston, O. Nicholas Rath, David Crittenden, Joseph Hagedorn

**FEB. 15 THE AHN TRIO**  
4 PM Angella Ahn, violin; Maria Ahn, cello; Lucia Ahn, piano

**MAR. 29 JORJA FLEEZANIS, violin**  
4 PM with Burt Hara, clarinet; Joseph Johnson, cello; and Robert Helps, piano

**APR. 26 THE LARK STRING QUARTET**  
7 PM Diane Pascal and Jennifer Orchard, violins; Anna Kruger, viola; Astrid Schween, cello

**MAY 10 MARK O'CONNOR,**  
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## YOUTH NEWS

### Achievements flourish at Capitol Hill School

by Judy Woodward

State-mandated basic skills tests have become a new hurdle for Minnesota school kids, and much official finger-pointing was done last spring over the dismal performance of youngsters in big-city school districts like Minneapolis and St. Paul. But a public school with one of the highest passing rates is found, not in a wealthy suburb, but right here in St. Paul.

At the Capitol Hill School on Concordia Avenue, almost 90 percent of 8th graders placed above average on basic skills. Of course, there's a catch. Capitol Hill calls itself a "gifted and talented magnet." Entrance to the school is by examination only, and there is a long waiting list of eligible children for whom the school has no space.

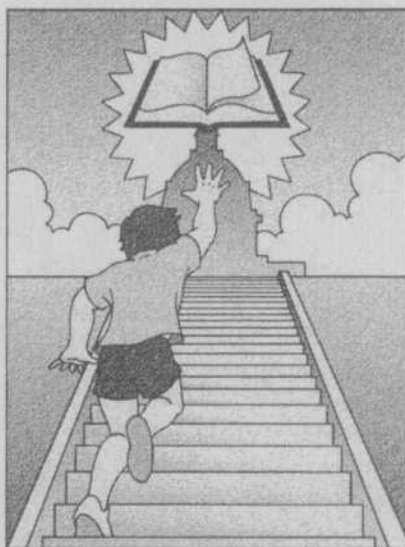
But for some lucky students and their families, Capitol Hill is a true educational find, a chance to get a private school education at public school prices, with an extra dividend in ethnic and racial diversity and an atmosphere that Principal Mary Dybvig said makes "children want to be here."

Capitol Hill offers grades 1-8 arranged around an interior courtyard in the huge Rondo Education Center, which houses at least two other grade schools as well as several other academic programs. Students are recruited throughout the St. Paul district but admission preference is given to children who live in the immediate area of the school. The sheer size of the building and the daunting bus ride out of their own neighborhood can make the school a little overwhelming to incoming 1st graders. Nevertheless, a number of local families have opted for Capitol Hill.

Drew Bjorklund, father of two students at Capitol Hill and a St. Anthony Park resident, is unreserved in his praise. "I'm happy with virtually everything at the school. What I like is that the school tends to stress thinking skills. They don't get into rote memorization. The kids are good thinkers. In fact, they know more than we do!"

Dona Schwartz, another parent who lives in St. Anthony Park, singles out the student peer group as a particular advantage of the school. "The kids provide an intellectual resource for one another." She added that, although the highly academic atmosphere can be stressful, her sons have thrived in the school. "But homework assignments require parent involvement, and sometimes I'm the one who feels stressed. Still, I feel I can keep on top of it."

Parent Melvyn Jones, also of the Park, had a somewhat different perspective on the intellectual challenges of the school's atmosphere. Remarking that he had attended segregated public schools in Alabama, which



were hardly known for their academic excellence, he recounted, "I never found my limits, and I got a little big-headed about my abilities. I feel there is something good about being in a school like Capitol Hill with some kids who are somewhat better at things than you are. Our kids are not 'stars' at Capitol Hill, which they might be in another setting — and this is a good thing!"

Said Katherine Tane, St. Anthony Park resident, mother of 3rd and 6th graders and chair of the school's fundraising committee, "Capitol Hill works for my kids, but it's not for everyone. There's a ton of homework for one thing. It works for 'whole learners,' because the kids find all kinds of different ways to get at an assignment. On the other hand, a kid who needs to know where the benchmarks are, who needs to conform, that kid might be a little lost."

Tane added, despite the problem of "very busy parents," parent involvement in the school is high. "The school selects out for those families who put a high value on education."

And that, of course, brings up "selection," the hot-button issue at Capitol Hill. Student selection or admissions testing — that undeniably anti-egalitarian educational notion — is at the center of Capitol Hill's identity. Parents defend it, school administrators seem to have trouble defining it, and some critics think it should be abolished altogether.

In grades 1 through 6, the student body of Capitol Hill is comprised of children who have placed roughly at or above the 75 percent level on what the St. Paul School District defines as a test of cognitive abilities, but the rest of us call an IQ test.

Joe Nathan, a national education expert at the University of Minnesota's Humphrey Institute and a former school administrator at Murray Junior High, thinks that's grounds enough for opposition to the school. "Capitol Hill is an elite private school financed with public funds. It's inappropriate to have some public schools base admission on entrance tests," he declared.

Principal Dybvig responded,

"We hear charges of elitism all the time. If we don't challenge bright and talented kids, what will happen to the leaders of the future?"

Parents report that some children can thrive only in a setting like Capitol Hill.

"There are many gifted kids who would be marginalized in a regular school setting," said Tane. Added Dybvig, "In other schools, kids get teased for taking books home. Here they can bring them right into the lunchroom without facing the scorn of their fellow students."

St. Paul school

administrators appear to have accepted the necessity of admissions testing, but they can't seem to agree on what sort of test to use. Entrance procedures have been revised several times to make them more culturally inclusive in a school system where white children make up only about half the student population.

While admissions controversies may swirl about the school, the best proof of the educational success of Capitol Hill can be found in classrooms like Mrs. Ford's 1st grade. A recent visitor there found a multi-hued, enthusiastic cluster of 6 and 7-year-olds seated in a rough semi-circle, paying close attention to Ford, a pleasant-featured woman of middle years, with a preternatural awareness of 20 different little personalities, all of them supercharged with energy.

Her class is most notable perhaps for what is *not* seen. There's no fidgeting, no vacant stares, no time-wasting, no sense that only the child's unwilling body is present while his or her errant spirit wanders in regions far from school.

The children lean forward with eagerness as Ford gives them a math problem. "We need to make a box for the cat to sleep in. The cat's body is 40 centimeters long and its tail is 30 centimeters. How big should we make the box?"

The visitor, raised in the literal tradition of schools of long ago, hazards a guess-70 centimeters? Wrong! That answer clearly doesn't make it in the modern world of critical thinking skills. A kindly 6-year-old said, "Cats like to sleep cozy, with their tails wrapped around them. So 40 x 50 centimeters would be just about right." The class agrees, and the visitor begins to grasp the difference between rote learning and the kind of education that goes on at Capitol Hill School. Call it higher order learning, gifted and talented education or whatever educational term is currently popular, what's happening at Capitol Hill clearly "works." You can see it in the faces of the children.

For information about Capitol Hill call 293-5918. ■

Illustration by Warren Hanson



## KID-BITS

### Kids Vendors Fair

The fourth annual Kids Vendors Fair is set for Saturday, September 13 from noon to 3 p.m. at Langford Park.

Kids will be peddling food and refreshments plus art, crafts, toys, books, athletic equipment, baseball cards, comic books and video games.

Tables can be reserved for free by calling 298-5765.

### Gymnastics Club

The St. Anthony Park Gymnastics Club offers USA Gymnastics instruction throughout the year for girls and boys, ages 4 to 18. Classes meet at St. Anthony Elementary School on Monday through Thursday. Call 699-0600 for information.

### Ice Cream Social

The South St. Anthony Booster Club is sponsoring an Ice Cream Social on Sunday, September 7 from 2 to 4 p.m. at South St. Anthony Recreation Center. Besides dishing up ice cream treats, the event includes games and pony rides.

### Registrations

\* Registration for Langford Park-South St. Anthony boys and girls hockey, ages 7 to 11, runs from September 22 to October 10.

\* Sign-up for Langford Park-South St. Anthony boys

and girls basketball, ages 9 to 14, is set for October 6 to 24.

\* Registration for Langford Park and South St. Anthony Park activities runs from September 8 to 19. Langford activities include gym games, Chess Club, pencil and pastel drawing, theater, Tot Time and tumbling. South St. Anthony pursuits feature Parent-Child Play Group, senior activities, men's basketball and open volleyball.

### Now & Then Street Dance

Students, ages 13 to 16, can plan on dancing to the hits of today and yesteryear at Now & Then, St. Anthony Park's Street Dance on Saturday, September 20 from 7 to 10 p.m. at Langford Park.

The dance features sets of today's best music from Oasis to Beck plus the very best of the oldies, including Blondie and ABBA.

Students may also bring their favorite CDs and tapes.

### Holiday pageant planned

Yikes! Christmas is coming and the St. Anthony Park Holiday Theater Group is looking for boys and girls, ages 8 to 14, for its presentation of *The Best Christmas Ever*. Theater workshops begin September 29. Call 298-5765 for details. ■

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## RARE BOOK ROOM AT LUTHER SEMINARY INSPIRES AWE

by Laura Pritchett



In what used to be a chapel with stained glass windows and gothic arches, there is now an extraordinary collection of rare books. Luther Seminary's Rare Book Room is awe inspiring, not only because of the innate beauty of old leather-bound books, but because this room houses many of

the important documents that reflect the highest efforts of humankind — the printed words of great individuals searching for truth.

This collection's specialty is 16th and 17th century Reformation material. The writings of Luther and those who were inspired by him, as well as those who opposed him, are housed in this small room. Highlights of the collection are Luther's Bible of 1556 and

Luther's own copy of a Psalter fr scribbled in the margins. But the line the shelves from floor to ceil Luther's September Bible, printed that the collection houses is a Bib This text, along with many others hand decorations common in boo elaborate designs and miniature p There are countless Bibles, by theological treatises, and Bible co also offers a Master's degree in Is the Koran, including the o translation.

History — not only of social upheaval, is what thi the Lutherans read to the H on one side of the room, an Bible (which is what Shake the other. One very rare ed by Henry VIII of England i



## "I'M SO CLEVER" — A BOOK LOVER MOVES

by David Anger

Just moved. Yep, never moving again. At least not for a while. Okay, at least not for five years.

Why? All those darn cardboard boxes. 150 of them, bursting at their 3M tape seams with books and magazines. I see a cardboard box or a moving truck and I become sick.

When Ashby and Paul — our swift and trusty movers — arrived at our old place one month ago they balked.

"Thought this was a one-bedroom job," Paul grumbled toward Ashby. "What's in these boxes anyway?"

I shrugged, "You really want to know?"

"Yes."

"Okay," I explained, "First comes the magazines. No *Lifes* or *National Geographics* or *Reader Digests*. We're talking about Andy Warhol's *Interview*, hundreds of 'em. Oh, I packed a rare and complete set of *Wig Wag and Egg*, two magazines that never flew in the late '80s. Then there's the design publications: *L'Uomo Vogue*, *House and Garden*, *Maison et Jardin*, *Maire Claire Maison*, *Casa Vogue*, *House Beautiful* — etc."

"You guys are into design," Ashby gleed, while glancing at his coworker.

"Guess so."

"Gotta get moving," Ashby said, while stacking boxes onto the dolly.

Suddenly the rest of our books were dismissed, forgotten. Worse, the movers reduced Jim and I to a pair of wanna-be decorators, who smoke Eve cigarettes, drink Rob Roys and watch Masterpiece Theater.

I wanted to tell him about the rest — not *Marky Mark* by *Marky Mark* or *The Soap Opera Book* — but the whole downright impressive, intellectual stretching rest, such as Hannah Arendt's *The Life of the Mind* and Nabokov's *Lectures on Literature*.

From my writing perch, engulfed by five book shelves, I catch glimpses of our life stories. Yes, these books are more revealing than the medicine chest. I survey Jim's John Cheever volumes, my Edith Wharton's and our David Leavitt books. Then there's Didion's *White Album* and *Play It As It Lays* and *Run River* and so on. Doesn't everyone go through a Joan Didion phase?

Later, during lunch, Ashby queried, "What if we said, 'You can only move five books.' Which one would you choose?"

"That's impossible," Jim answered, adding, "How about six?"

"I'd keep Edmund White's *A Boy's Own Story* and David Leavitt's *The Lost Language of Cranes*," I listed. "The Updike could go, but save *New York 1960*. And I'd definitely pack Ellen MacGregor's *Theodore Turtle*, my favorite childhood story."

It chronicles a day in the life of Theodore, a forgetful tortoise, who keeps saying, "I'm so clever. So very clever at remembering." But through the story Theodore manages to misplace his umbrella, shoes, newspaper and almost burns his house. Still, he claims, "I'm so clever."

"So, you've only found four to save," Ashby scolded.

Guess the rest is pulp padding, like a kid's teddy bear, teenager's telephone and businessman's Lexus.

Then, the other day a friend asked, "We're driving to Chicago in November for the Navy Pier Book Show. You guys going?"

Will we go? Guess.

Illustration by Louis Safer



# PIECE

## The Joy of Books

13, which contains his notes just a few of the rare books that there is also a facsimile of 22. The earliest printed book is a Latin prayer book from Venice in 1478. In this era and which often contain

pamphlets, sermons, and other religious tracts. Because Luther Seminary has a large collection of books, there are also copies of the text of the first English

Lutheran Church — but of a larger size. There is the text that Martin Luther wrote in 1530 (the Geneva Bible, the first English Bible) on a pamphlet written by the seven members and there is a copy of the Augsburg Confessions, which, wherever you go in this room, you will find help but find yourself looking upon a beautiful and inspiring material.

Part of the appeal of these books is not what they contain, but the gorgeous illustrations and colorful illuminations. Many of these books are in the "cradle period" — the time right after the invention of the printing press to the 1500s. During this time, there was a transitional period, and a text, for example, may contain printed Gothic text, but also contain hand

illuminations. And several of the books were printed by John Baskerville, a press famous for its fine printing.

The room also contains other rare and beautiful artifacts — perhaps the most moving of these is Martin Luther's Death Mask. Only three exist in the world, and the other two are in Germany.

The curator of all this is the Rev. Terrance Dinovo, who graduated from Luther Seminary with a Master of Divinity degree in 1980 and a Master of Theology in 1988. He is currently working on his Doctorate in Theology through the University of Wales. He said that many of the researchers using this library are students interested in the 16th century, who want to understand the impact of the Reformation on the people and to determine the effect and progress of new ideas. The library is open to research for students and faculty. Outside scholars can make an appointment to use the materials too. Visitors are welcome. Dinovo is happy to give presentations on the various materials and to show visitors around.

There are 14,000 titles in the Rare Book Collection, and another

30,000 titles on microfilm on all subjects, including drama, literature, and politics. The core of the collection is from the library of Friedrich August Schmidt, an American Lutheran pastor, professor and editor.

The room that houses the collection once served as a radio chapel from which students broadcasted vespers to the surrounding neighborhood. Today, the chapel's purpose is to house a fine collection of rare books, themselves illuminated by the light shining through the stained glass windows. ■

Photos by Truman Olson



## CAROL RYRIE BRINK'S HOUSE IN UNIVERSITY GROVE

Judy Woodward

In the summer of 1933 a big white colonial house was built on Hoyt Avenue in University Grove. Despite the deep depression gripping most of the country, the house was built to meet architectural standards by a prosperous and confident young family. While the house was going up in the leafy Grove, the family spent the year in France, where the father, a professor at the University of Minnesota, was on sabbatical leave.

Less than five years later, a rich history would be made in the house. In 1937, the lady of the

house — Carol Ryrie Brink — won the Newbery Award for her classic children's novel, *Caddie Woodlawn*, which was written in the first years she spent in her new Hoyt Avenue home.

David R. Brink, the author's eldest child and a retired lawyer, remembers the events of 60 years ago with the clarity of childhood recall. He was age 13 when the family moved into the house. Although he grew up and left the family home for service in World War II, his parents continued to live there for another two decades.

David Brink said that the character of the hoydenish *Caddie* was based on the pioneer girlhood of his great-grandmother, "Gram" Carrie Woodhouse. "Gram was not all that articulate," he remembered. "I had heard all the stories before the book was written, and Mother

added the art."

The atmosphere in the Brink family during the early years was literary in a way that seems remote from modern life. David Brink recalled the family reading aloud, both on Hoyt Avenue and at the family's summer cottage. The cottage had no electricity and on summer evenings the whole family would gather on the porch within the circle of the kerosene lamp. "The women would knit, and my father or uncle would read aloud."

Social life for the family revolved around university colleagues and the Congregational church. After the family moved into the new house, the Brink's younger child, Norah, attended school at the one-room schoolhouse which still stands at Larpentour and Cleveland avenues.

According to David Brink, his mother, who eventually wrote more than 30 books for children and adults, never considered herself a



Ryrie Brink's House to page 20

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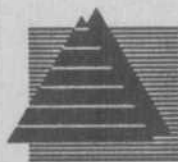
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## N E I G H B O R S

### LAUDERDALE

#### Election judges sought

Election judges are needed for the November 4 city election. Two shifts must be filled — 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. Call City Hall at 631-0300 for information. Judges are paid \$5.50 per hour and meals are provided.

#### Candidacy deadline

September 9 is the candidacy deadline for the upcoming city election. Two city council seats and the mayoral seat will be on the ballot. The council seats, currently held by Denise Hawkinson and Clay Christensen, are four-year terms. The mayoral seat, now held by Jeff Dains, is a two-year term. File for office at City Hall, 1891 Walnut.

#### Garden club organizing

Lauderdale is known for its beautiful gardens. So, it's not surprising that neighbors are organizing a garden club. To become involved call City Hall at 631-0300.

### FALCON HEIGHTS

#### Sundays at Gibbs Farm Museum

Experience the country at the Gibbs Farm Museum each Sunday, when a variety of programs tell the story of life on a Minnesota farm.

Upcoming Sunday programs are: Picnic Day on August 31. Bring a picnic and tour the farm. Lemonade provided.

Quilts and Rugs on September 7. Quilting, rug hooking and weaving demonstration. Antique quilts and rugs shown in the red barn.

Grandparents Day on September 14. Children and their grandparents learn as they discover the past.

Death and Dying on September 21. Understand the mourning period and other Victorian customs surrounding death.

Apple Day on September 28. Cooking and baking with apples. Children can make apple-head dolls.

The Gibbs Farm Museum is located at Cleveland and Larpentur avenues. It is open Tuesdays through Fridays from

10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 4 p.m.

#### ¿Habla Español?

The International Institute of Minnesota hopes to hire a native Spanish speaker with experience in teaching adults for evening programs. Instructors teach beginning through advanced levels for one to two evenings weekly. Call Julie Stone at 647-0191 for information.

#### Book club schedule

The Falcon Heights Book Club discusses *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil* on September 16, 7 p.m., at City Hall, 2077 Larpentur Avenue. For informational call Laura Kuettel at 646-7099.

### ST. ANTHONY PARK

#### Luther Lay School offerings

A Christian's transforming place in the world, a pair of Old Testament prophets and the relationship between law and gospel are part of Luther Seminary's Lay School of Theology.

The Lay School is a program of informal, non-credit classes taught by seminary professors for laypeople who want to learn more about Christian faith and life. Classes run from September 22 to October 20 and meet in Northwestern Hall on Mondays at 7 p.m. Registration costs \$40 a course. Call 641-3517 for information.



*Youngsters Jane Gardner and Robin Audette enjoy popsicles and friendship.* Photo by Ken Gardner

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Lauderdale resident Patrick Mendes recently traveled to the Middle East to participate in the first International Leadership Academy in Amman, Jordan. He served as special assistant to former NATO Ambassador Harlan Cleveland. In the Middle East, Mendes toured Israel, Palestine and Egypt, where he met with former Israel Prime Minister Simon Peres, Yaser Arafat and King Hussein.

## COMO PARK

### Conservatory volunteers needed

Volunteering at the Como Park Conservatory is a learning experience. Now, the conservatory is looking for new volunteers to guide visitors through its historic building. Training begins on September 22 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Volunteer shifts run for three hours with flexible scheduling. Call Karyn Thompson at 487-8247 to participate.

### La Leche League meeting

The advantages of breastfeeding is the topic at the Como-Midway La Leche League meeting on Tuesday, September 9 at 7 p.m. Mothers-to-be, mothers, babies and toddlers are invited. La Leche League meetings provide breastfeeding information and support on an informal, mother-to-be basis. For meeting location and information call Jeanne at 644-0302 or Faye at 489-6356.

## PEOPLE

Phyllis Jenks received an outstanding service award from the University of Minnesota Extension Service civil service staff. She is a senior editor and product manager and has worked for the extension service since 1983.

Bryan Todd Christianson and Benjamin Jay Tressel were named to the dean's list at Hamline University's College of Liberal Arts last spring.

Molly McClure won a \$5,000 President's Scholarship from the College of St. Benedict.

## NOTICES

Beginning October 1, the Ramsey County lead and grass drop-off sites will be open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 649-3005 for location information. ■

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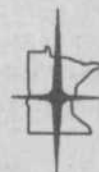
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## More than penmanship — Goldstein show explores the elegant calligraphy of Jin Seien

by Amy Causton

Most of us think of penmanship as something purely functional, if not nearly obsolete in this age of computers. But in Asia, character

calligraphy. Today he is a respected master of the art and continues to teach in Yokohama, Japan.

The exhibit showcases several of Seien's works from his private collection, many of which are classical Japanese poems that he has written out in calligraphy. According to Matthew Welch, associate curator of Asian Art at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, there are three main writing styles. Standard script is the style used in formal documents; semi-cursive is looser and more commonly used in individual correspondence; and graph script is the most fluid, where characters are heavily abbreviated and connected, somewhat like cursive writing in English. The works on exhibit display all different styles, some very precise, others very fluid.

What distinguishes a true master is the grace and precision of the brush strokes. Calligraphers typically use a flexible brush with long bristles (a calligraphy tool kit is also on display at the exhibit), and when writing, calligraphers will hold their arms up in a formal posture. Under these conditions, Welch said, "An even line is an incredible feat." Creating strong, fluid lines is something that requires dexterity, patience and discipline.

Another distinguishing mark of the artist is the seal which

appears on some works as an impression in red ink, somewhat like a rubber stamp. Welch remarked that carving these elaborate seals is a separate

**What distinguishes  
a true master is the  
grace and precision  
of the brushstrokes.**

profession, but he added that some artists, Seien among them, choose to carve their own seals out of stone and use them as a sort of "signature" to a piece.

Besides the works of calligraphy on display, the Goldstein is also exhibiting a collection of Japanese sashes (obi) from the private collection of James and Barbara Serrin. These beautifully embroidered sashes are decorated with symbolic patterns of various flowers, trees and animals. The Goldstein has some works from the gallery collection on display as well, including the aforementioned calligraphy tool kit and a pair of antique Buddhist cassocks.

"Ink Clouds" is open through October 12. The Goldstein is open Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m., and weekends, 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. Admission is free. The gallery is located on the second floor in McNeal Hall, 1985 Buford Avenue. ■

*Photo courtesy the Goldstein Gallery*



writing or calligraphy is a true art form. In fact, you can see examples of this art form in an exhibit at the Goldstein Gallery on the University of Minnesota St. Paul Campus called "Ink Clouds: The Calligraphy of Jin Seien."

Seien was born in Japan in 1913. He began teaching calligraphy as a hobby when he was 17 and also studied and taught professionally. In 1967 he began studying at the Goseki school of calligraphy, which specializes in Chinese-style



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# ARTS EVENTS

## EXHIBITS

**Ink Clouds: The Calligraphy of Jin Seien** continues at the Goldstein Gallery through October 12.

The exhibit features the work of Jin Seien, who explores the aesthetic, cultural, historic and social contexts of Japanese calligraphy plus decorative arts, dress and textiles.

Seien is a master calligrapher from Yokohama, Japan, and his work is part of the museum's permanent collection.

The Goldstein is located at 241 McNeal Hall — 1985 Buford Avenue — on the St. Paul Campus. It is open Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m., and weekends, 1:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Cellist **Laura Sewell** joins pianist **Butch Thompson** for a benefit concert on Sunday, October 5.

located at the corner of Hendon and Fulham streets.

Enjoy fantastic jazz music and raise money for handicapped accessibility on Sunday, October 5, when **Butch Thompson** and friends donate their musical talents to benefit the accessibility renovation projects at St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ and St. Anthony Park Library.

Cellist **Laura Sewell** and cornetist **Charlie DeVore** join Thompson, performing music by Scott Joplin, Jelly Roll Morton, Duke Ellington and Thompson's own version of elevator music. The concert is being held at St. Anthony Park UCC. Tickets cost between \$30 and \$100. Call 645-7934.

St. Anthony Park resident **Peter Hendrickson** conducts the North American premiere performance of *Fange Og Fri* by Egil Hovland at the Ted Mann Concert Hall on the University of Minnesota's West Bank on September 19. This opera was commissioned in 1995 to celebrate the 1,000 year anniversary of Christianity in Norway, debuting at the Bergen Music Festival in 1995. During Hovland's stay in the Twin Cities, Luther Seminary will be his home. More still, Luther professor Gracia Grindal is the translator. Hendrickson is the director of Augsburg College's music department. Call 624-2345 for tickets.

Former University Grove resident **Sujata Massey** reads from *The Salaryman's Wife* at Micawbers on Wednesday, September 24, at 7 p.m.



Boys and girls, ages 8 to 13, are sought for the **St. Matthew's Episcopal Church choir**. Children need not be church members. The choir sings Sunday mornings at the 10:30 service under the direction of J Michael Compton. Based on the English model, the choir combines adult and children's voices. Call 645-3058 for information.

## WRITING

The **St. Anthony Park Writers Workshop** meets on Tuesday, September 2, 7:30 p.m., at 1261 Cleveland Avenue North. Call 646-4343 for information.

## BOOKS

The **Falcon Heights Book Club** discusses *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil* on September 16, 7 p.m., at City Hall, 2077 Larpent Avenue. ■

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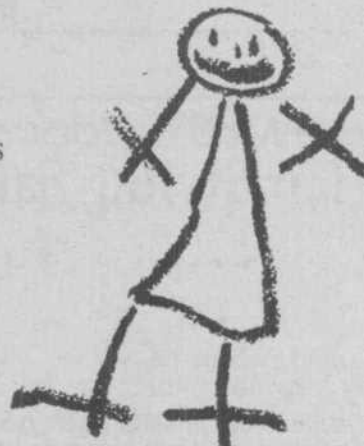
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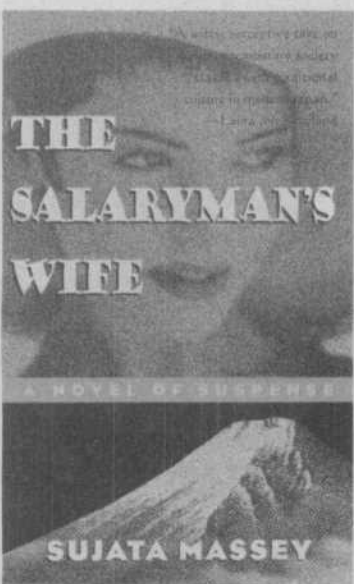


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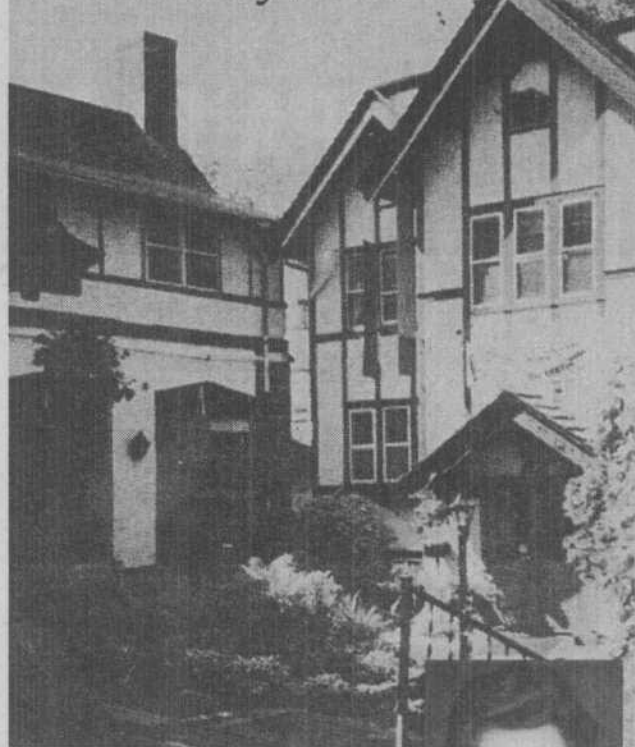
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**GOOD WORKS****Dorcas Wang leads Faith Chinese Fellowship**

by Judy Woodward

When Dorcas Wang says that it's never easy to be a real Christian, she speaks from a depth of experience that few Americans can share. Wang was born in China in 1956 at a time when Christian families like her own were forced to practice their religion behind locked doors and closed curtains. Her childhood memories are of underground church services held in private homes, where fear was a constant accompaniment to the joy and peace of Christian worship. When she was still young, both her parents were sent to "re-education camps" by Communist authorities for the "crimes" of being university trained and Christian. "All educated people suffered during the Chinese Cultural Revolution of the 1960s," she remembered, "but Christians had it the worst."

The ordeals she endured as a child left her with a fund of religious faith that sustains her now in her work as the leader of the Faith Chinese Fellowship, an outreach group that serves area Chinese students, scholars and their families.

Housed in space borrowed from the St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, the Chinese Fellowship is less than a year old and is slowly building attendance for its Sunday afternoon services. Many of its members are not Christian, and Wang sees her purpose clearly. "My responsibility is to find the best way to reach out to my fellow Chinese and share God's love." Her official title is Mission Developer; and her zeal for her work is enormous. She jokes that sometimes Chinese who are unfamiliar with the methods of Christian outreach wonder if she gets paid a commission for every soul she saves.

Not likely. It doesn't take a visitor long to realize that Wang does what she does for the joy of it. Slender with unlined skin and crow-wing black hair that belies her 41 years, Wang speaks with a sincerity and sense of living faith that can stop the mouths of cynics

and make fallen-away-Christians listen to the Good News as if they were spoken for the first time.

She describes her congregation, which averages 40 adults during the academic year, as highly educated, "the cream of the crop" and said, "They ask a lot of questions. They are very serious." Liturgical form is deliberately de-emphasized at the Chinese Fellowship, since Wang fears that too much ritual might distance non-Christian Chinese from the central meaning of the religion.

One unusual member of the fellowship is Charlotte Gronseth, associate director of the Global

to the Christian message, "They brought a lot of Western culture to China. For example, a pipe organ in church. Some people thought if you don't have one, you're not Christian. When I preach the Gospel, there's a constant challenge to apply the Christian message to Chinese culture. I don't want Chinese to feel that they must forget being Chinese in order to be Christian. Since God is universal, Chinese art and culture is part of the richness of God's creation."

When asked about cultural conflicts between Christianity and traditional Chinese beliefs, Wang's response was measured.

"Christianity is in conflict with every culture," she explained. "What God tells us to do is not what we want to see or hear."

Wang is not a newcomer to St. Anthony Park or Minnesota. She came to the U. S. in 1985 to attend Concordia College in Moorhead. Attendance at Luther Seminary followed, and she received a Masters in Divinity in 1992. Wang completed her formal education at Princeton, where she earned a second M.A. in Theology with an emphasis on

Christian Education in 1993. After serving an internship in Pennsylvania, she began working with the World Mission Prayer League. That organization assigned her to take up her present position with the Faith Chinese Fellowship last October. When asked why she chose Minnesota as the site of so much of her education and professional life, Wang responded with an old seminary joke, "Minnesota has very scriptural winters, you know. Many are called, but few are frozen."

In fact, like many Chinese abroad, Wang says the choice of residence is not a luxury she can afford. "I feel everywhere is home because of the warmth of people met through work, but nowhere is my home. I never really totally unpack my suitcase. I'm always ready to go—but I don't know where."

Wang, who is single, says she finds it difficult to set boundaries on a professional life that can easily absorb all her waking hours. "It's a challenge for me to fit in everything I do in a day. How would someone with a family manage this?"

Wang's position with the fellowship will continue for another year. Asked about her future plans, her reply is characteristically modest. "I leave it in God's hands," concluded Wang, but added, "I want some day to go back to China. That's my purpose. I await God's call." ■



Mission Institute at Luther Seminary. Gronseth, a Caucasian who was born in China and speaks fluent Chinese, said of Wang, "Her ministry is outstanding. She makes use of Chinese proverbs and illustrations from Chinese life in her sermons. I gain insight into my faith and into the Chinese approach to the faith from hearing her."

Wang is candid when a visitor asks about problems that arise from introducing Chinese people to a religion that is widely perceived as Western, even colonial, in its influences. "God is universal," she said. "He does not belong to one nation. As a Chinese and a Christian, I feel sad about some of the things that have been done in the name of Christianity. But these failings show the 'humanness' of some Christians. God is divine, but people are not."

Wang spoke of the Western missionaries who introduced Christianity to China. In addition



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# COMMUNITY CALENDAR



Photo by Truman Olson

## 5 FRIDAY

- Falcon Heights and Lauderdale recycling
- Youth Night, St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church, 2200 Hillside, 7 - 11 p.m. Every Friday.

## 7 SUNDAY

- Ice Cream Social, South St. Anthony Booster Club, 2 - 4 p.m. at South St. Anthony Recreation Center.
- Quilts and Rags Day, Gibbs Farm Museum, noon to 4 p.m.

## 8 MONDAY

- Park Press, Inc. — Park Bugle — board meeting, ParkBank community room, 7 a.m.
- Falconeers Senior Club, Falcon Heights City Hall, 1 to 3:30 p.m. Call 488-3361 or 644-0055.
- Como Park recycling day
- Boy Scouts, St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ, 7 p.m. Every Monday.

## 9 TUESDAY

- Primary election, St. Paul.
- La Leche League meeting, 7 p.m. Call 644-0302 or 489-6356 for location.
- Lauderdale City Council, City Hall, 7:30 p.m.
- Filing deadline for Lauderdale city elections.

## 10 WEDNESDAY

- St. Anthony Park recycling day
- Falcon Heights City Council, City Hall, 7 p.m.
- St. Anthony Park Community Council, South St. Anthony Rec Center, 890 Cromwell, 7-9 p.m.

## 13 SATURDAY

- Kids Vendors Fair, Langford Park, noon - 3 p.m.

## 14 SUNDAY

- Grandparents Day, Gibbs Farm Museum, noon to 4 p.m.
- Pianist Charles "Jake" Dyrhaug presents a free performance at Luther Seminary's Chapel of the Cross, Northwestern Hall, 7 p.m.

## 16 TUESDAY

- Full Moon
- District 10 Como Community Council. Call 644-3889 for location.
- Falcon Heights Book Club discusses *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil*, City Hall, 2077 West Larpentour Avenue, 7 p.m.
- Lauderdale Planning Commission, City Hall, 1891 Walnut, 7:30 p.m.

## 17 WEDNESDAY

- St. Anthony Park recycling day
- Langford Booster Club, Langford Park, 7:30 p.m.

## 19 FRIDAY

- Falcon Heights and Lauderdale recycling day.

## 20 SATURDAY

- Lauderdale 500 Club, Lauderdale City Hall, 1891 Walnut Street, 1 p.m.
- "Now & Then" Street Dance for teenagers, ages 13 to 16, at Langford Park from 7 to 10 p.m.

## 21 SUNDAY

- Death and Dying during Victorian times, Gibbs Farm Museum, noon to 4 p.m.

## 22 MONDAY

- Autumn begins
- Como Park recycling day.

## 23 TUESDAY

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

## 24 WEDNESDAY

- St. Anthony Park Community Council Housing & Human Services Committee, South St. Anthony Rec Center, 5:30-7 p.m.
- St. Anthony Park Community Council Environment Committee, South St. Anthony Rec Center, 7-9 p.m.
- Falcon Heights City Council, City Hall, 7 p.m.
- Former University Grove resident Sujata Massey reads from *The Salaryman's Wife* at Micawbers, 7 p.m.

## 28 SUNDAY

- Apple Day, Gibbs Farm Museum, noon to 4 p.m.

Items for the October Community Calendar must be submitted to the Bugle office by 6 p.m., Friday, September 12.

"The Albany Gang" spent several days restoring this hand-me-down go-cart to pristine racing condition.  
Photo by Kathryn Audette



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## O B I T U A R I E S

**Beatrice Bawden**

Beatrice "Bee" M. Bawden died on July 17, at the age of 96. She lived in Como Park on Iowa Avenue for over 50 years and recently resided at the Presbyterian Home.

Bawden taught English as a Second Language for many years at the International Institute of Minnesota.

Preceded in death by her husband, Roger, and daughter, Nancie, she is survived by daughter, Barbara Flinn; grandchildren, Jeff Benson, Sue McCoy, Lisa Nybus, Kris Beaudet, Carey Howells, and Jennifer Marks; and 11 great-grandchildren.

**Lyle Block**

Como Park resident Lyle W. Block, age 68, died on August 8.

Block was a 40-year employee of Northern States Power Company and a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, Old Timers Fast Pitch Softball Association and the Hot Stove League. He was a parishioner at Holy Childhood Catholic Church.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Bill and Marie, and sister, Martha Adella. Survivors include his wife, Marlene; children, James, Mary Jo Person, Jeanne Laramy, and Patricia Sheahan; and grandchildren, Brianna Person, Lindsay and Nicholas Laramy.

**Margaret Coulter**

Margaret Coulter, a longtime resident of St. Anthony Park and Como Park, died on March 25, in Billings, Montana. Her husband, Samuel Coulter, taught dairy husbandry on the

St. Paul Campus of the University of Minnesota. They lived in St. Anthony Park, then moved to Como Park on Arlington Avenue, while maintaining a summer home at Marine on St. Croix.

Coulter was born in Lakefield, Minnesota. She was active in the First United Methodist Church in Stillwater. In recent years, the Coulters moved to Billings, Montana, to be near their daughter, Nancy LeCaptain.

She is survived by her husband, Samuel; daughters, Nancy LeCaptain, Priscilla Witzel, and Joan Stockford; 11 grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren.

**Mark Steven Foster**

Mark Steven Foster, a former resident of St. Anthony Park, died at age 45 on July 18. From 1990 to 1995, he lived on Fulham Street with his former wife, Nancy Ruhland, and their two sons. Most recently, he lived in Dinkytown.

At the time of his death, he worked as a pharmacist at the Drug Emporium on Arcade Street. He was a former U. S. Air Force and U. S. Public Health Service Officer and was the former editor of Quanta Press.

Foster is preceded in death by his parents, Albert and Marjorie, and sisters, Judith Thompson and Virginia Pladzewicz. He is survived by his wife, Sarah, and children, Roy Foster, Jake Foster, Angela Whitwam, Jeremy Foster, Craig Foster and Ian Foster; grandchildren, Ace and Austen Whitwam; and sisters, Alice Kostuch, Emma Boehmke, and Audrey Burke.

**Gertrude Gordanier**

Gertrude R. Gordanier died on August 12, at 87 years of age. She was a 50-year resident of South St. Anthony Park on Long Avenue and recently lived at Seal Hi-Rise.

Gordanier worked as a sewing machine operator and was active in the residents' council at Seal Hi-Rise.

Preceded in death by her husband, Phillip, she is survived by son, Michael; and grandchildren, Noel and Danielle.

**Joseph David Heath**

Former Como Park neighbor Joseph "Joe" David Heath, age 6, died in an accident near his new home in Two Harbors, Minnesota, on August 1.

Preceded in death by his grandmother, Eileen Brost, Joe is survived by his parents, David and Theresa; brother, Matthew; grandparents, Bill and Donna Heath; and grandfather, Frank Brost.

**Francis William Hiles**

Francis William Hiles, a resident of Lauderdale, died on July 26, at the age of 70.

He was born in Missouri Valley, Iowa, on January 7, 1927. Hiles served five years in the U.S. Army Transportation Corps on several ships during World War II and then two years as communications specialist in the Army. He was a parishioner at Corpus Christi Catholic Church.

He was preceded in death by his parents, brother, Arthur, and sister, Margaret Redman. Survivors include his wife, Teresa; children, Susan Mayher, Gary, Richard, and Paul; brother, Edward; sisters, Ellen Tollefsrud, Marie Spencer, Marcella Jenkins, and Joyce Hiles; four grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

**Edmund Johnson**

Edmund "Skip" R. Johnson died suddenly on August 3, at the age

of 67. A former resident of St. Anthony Park on Branson Street, he lived in Arden Hills.

A life-long Minnesotan, he graduated from Murray High School in 1947. He was a member of Electrical Workers Union #160. His first job was at the Co-op gas station in St. Anthony Park, on the site of the present Unocal station.

Johnson worked at NSP from 1958 to 1989. He was an avid golfer and long-blade skater.

Survivors include a cousin, Margaret Jacobson; and close friend, Teddie Hirsch.

**Charles Libera**

Charles J. Libera, a resident of St. Anthony Park, died in California on July 15. He was 68 years of age.

Libera lived for 25 years on Doswell Avenue. He was a professor at Metro State University and a member of Corpus Christi Catholic Church.

Preceded in death by his wife, Mary, he is survived by children, Anne, Julie and David.

**Paul Murphy**

Paul L. Murphy, age 73, died on July 20. He was a resident of St. Anthony Park and University Grove for over 40 years, but recently lived in Highland Park.

A Regents' Professor of American history and American studies and an adjunct professor of political science at the University of Minnesota, Murphy was a leading historian of civil liberties. He was known for his "town hall meeting" classroom style and his pioneering studies of constitutional history. He retired in June after 40 years at the university.

He received the Distinguished Teaching Award from the College of Liberal Arts in 1975 and was inducted into the Minnesota Teachers Hall of Fame. He won numerous other

awards and fellowships, including a John Simon Guggenheim fellowship and a senior Fulbright lectorship in Nigeria.

A veteran of World War II, he was an accomplished jazz pianist who played in an Army band and performed bebop professionally in the 1940s.

Murphy is survived by his wife, Priscilla Pratt Murphy; two daughters, Karen and Patricia; stepchildren, Daniel Pratt and Caroline Pratt Carter; and four grandchildren.

**Myrna Pederson**

Myrna M. Pederson, a longtime resident of St. Anthony Park on Carter Avenue died on August 9. She was 86 years old. In recent years, she lived on County Road B in Roseville.

Pederson was born on March 23, 1911, in Kinsman, Ohio, and married George Pederson on December 23, 1934. She was the daughter of William and Emma Mathews.

She was an active member of St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ for nearly 60 years and was also involved with the St. Paul Women's Club.

Pederson is preceded in death by her husband, George, and sister, Dorothy McNair. Survivors include sons, Richard, Donald, and George; seven grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and 25 nieces and nephews.

**Robert Turk**

Robert A. Turk, a resident of Falcon Heights on Idaho Avenue, died at age 61 on August 12.

Turk taught in the Minneapolis Public Schools for 30 years. He was a former University of Minnesota and U. S. A. hockey team member, and worshipped at St. Andrew's Catholic Church.

Preceded in death by his wife, Doris "Ellyn" Turk, he is survived by children, Canayce King-Anderson, Scott and Anthony; and sister, Flo Davis.

**John Lundeen Whittemore**

South St. Anthony Park neighbor John (Jack) Lundeen Whittemore, owner of the short-lived yet beloved Mill City Cafe on Raymond Avenue, died on July 26, after a long battle with chronic myelogenous leukemia. He was 37.

Last summer, he underwent a bone marrow transplant and had been frequently hospitalized since then.

Whittemore was in the restaurant business in the Twin Cities since 1980 and opened the Mill City Cafe in 1994.

He was born in Northfield, Minnesota and grew up in Washington, D.C. He attended the University of Minnesota and Carleton College.

Survivors include his son, Miles Frederick; Miles' mother, Ann Manzara; parents, E. Reed and Helen; sisters, Cate Whittemore Levy and Daisy; and brother, Ned.

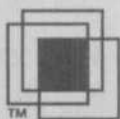
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Call now for complimentary tickets



**Prairie Star from . . . page 7**

Their menu includes sandwiches, soups, and salad. Within those categories however is a lot of variety. Their menu items are truly artistic creations.

Connor stated that, "We don't try to pass anything over on people. We've all had the experience of going to a restaurant where what was delivered was not what was promised on the menu." She maintained, "We try to serve food that is fresh, whole, high quality, organic and not manipulated."

Part of their vision, too, is to create a fun place to work. According to Howard, work is about "having fun and paying bills, of course!" She quietly affirmed, "If you're not having fun with what you do, you better

**The Star is charming place that has the potential to become a sweet, arty (and nonpretentious!) café.**

make another decision. After all, there's too much stress in life as it is!"

Connor attributes much of the Star's success to its "terrific staff." They employ about eight part-time staff of diverse backgrounds.

The Star is also a performing and visual artists' showcase. This month, Tracey Howard, a Philadelphia artist and sister of Cory, will be exhibiting her photographs and paintings for six weeks. In September, poets Alvin Greenberg, a recipient of the Loft's 1995 Award of Distinction in Poetry, and Julie Schumacher, contributor to the *Atlantic* and associate professor of English at the University of Minnesota, will be reading from their work.

If you want astrological advice, that's also possible. Howard prints out a weekly newsletter, available for free at the café, or you can schedule an appointment for a personal chart interpretation. And, yes, you can just sit and read the paper, or just come for a cup of coffee or tea.

There is a bumper crop of coffeehouses in the Twin Cities. Anything from locally owned to national chains. All claim to have ambiance, but many fall short. And face it, if you're going to pay a couple bucks for a cup of coffee, you're wanting more than the caffeine. You're wanting atmosphere!

The Star is charming place that has the potential to become a sweet, arty (and nonpretentious!) café. It's a space that lets us forget, for a while, about the outside world and provides a refuge where we can talk, eat, sip, and dream. I dare anyone, unless they're under some strict timelines, to try to get out of there in less than an hour! ■

**Ryrie Brink's House from . . . page 11**

professional writer. "You read about authors who rewrite the opening paragraph 120 times," he said. "Mother would have considered that not worth the effort. If it didn't 'roll,' she said, 'The heck with it.' Luckily, she had the gift for getting it right the first time."

Her son said Brink would mull over the plots while she did the housework. Then, while her children were in school, she would write her books in longhand at her writing desk which stood in the southwest corner of the living room, "which looked right across to Elmer Andersen's house."

Carol Brink was not the only writer who lived in the house on Hoyt Avenue. Indeed, David Brink sounds like a man with a score to settle when it comes to the respective literary merits of his parents. "John Q. Public knew my mother, but in math, my father, Raymond Brink, was outstanding. He was the

best-selling math author of his time."

Still, Carol Brink was far better known than her husband. Son David provides some indirect evidence that his father may have chafed at the differing popular interest shown to the family's two writers. "In the beginning, my mother tried her work out on my father," explained Brink. "He was very honest, and he would give her discouragement sometimes. You might even say that sometimes he would break her spirit. After that, she waited to show her work to him until it was almost done."

Nevertheless, Carol Brink possessed a loyal following among teachers and librarians. Her son said, "She had a fan-club of adoring middle-aged women. She was lionized by women's clubs."

The current owner of the Hoyt Avenue house, Eileen Pinto, said that Brinks were not the only creative family to occupy the

house. According to Pinto, cartoonist Greg Howard — originator of the comic strip *Sally Forth* — also grew up there.

Pinto's son, David, who grew up in the house in the 1970s and '80s, learned about his home's literary connections in grade school. "When I was in second or third grade," he reminisced, "I was given a class assignment to research someone well-known. I had heard that the author of *Caddie Woodlawn* had lived in my house, but I didn't really believe it. It almost seemed more like a rumor than something that was true. Anyway, I went to the

school library to look Brink up and there was my address!"

Eileen Pinto said that there are some penciled measurements in a basement doorway of the Hoyt Avenue house. Carefully dating from 1936 to 1939, they chart the increasing height of David and Norah Brink, measured against the baseline marks of their parents. It's the only physical evidence of the family left in a house that once held the world of Carol Brink's imagination. ■

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Pastor Gonzalo Olojan

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Call 646-7127 by noon Friday  
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9 am Children and Family Worship, Voice of Praise Rehearsal  
9:45 am Sunday School  
10 am Adult Forum, New Member Class, Youth Forum  
Monday Schedule  
9 am Bazaar Workshop  
1 pm "The Bible and Handel's Messiah"  
7 pm "The Bible and Handel's Messiah" (Nursery Provided)  
Wednesday Schedule  
6:45 am Bible Study at Keys (Lex)  
5:15 pm MEAL for everyone (Adults \$3, kids 15 years and under \$2,  
not to exceed \$10 per family)  
6 pm Choristers  
7 pm Confirmation, CPL Choir, Life With God (Adult Ed)  
7:30 pm "MIDWEEK" (High School Youth)  
6 pm Choristers  
Friday Schedule  
6:45 pm Men's Breakfast Fellowship (CJ Brown - HarMar)  
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Tuesday Bible Study: 10 am  
Pastor Drew Flathmann

**❖ ROSE HILL ALLIANCE CHURCH**

Roselawn at Cleveland. 631-0173  
Sunday Worship: 9:30 am  
Sunday School: 11 am beginning Sept. 7  
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  
Pastor Paul Ofstedal  
Sunday Worship: 8:45 and 11 am. Nursery at both services  
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Communion 1st and 3rd Sundays  
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To register call 645-5427.  
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Fellowship: 11:00 am We are Handicap Accessible!

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Fridays 7 pm Youth Activity Night

**❖ ST. CECILIA'S CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Cromwell and Bayless Place. 644-4502  
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

**❖ ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

2136 Carter at Chelmsford. 645-3058  
Sunday Schedule:  
9:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite I  
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