Sewage troubles Lake Como’s health

by John Marino

I t isn’t hard to do drain your radiator in the alley and it’s not hard to pour your grease and trash down a sink drain. All you have to do is not think about the effect your actions have. 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 from the surrounding neighborhoods that 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, such as Lake Minnetonka. 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 Eastview.

There is a lot of 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 two or three, so it’s wise to remember to bag ‘em up and haul them out to a Ramsey 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 sweeper to clean up,” she added, “but the problem is that the sweeper 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 redress 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 dissolved 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.

SEPTMB E R 1997 ■ VOLUME 24, NUMBER 3

Benavans faces 3 opponents on Sept. 9

by John Marino

M ark Roosevelt said he doesn’t want to spend 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 Benavanz, 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 Megelli’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 Benavanz, who ran a very solid campaign to earn the DFL endorsement.

Benavanz emerged from the April 12 DFL endorsement convention with 69 percent of the delegates voting for him on the first ballot.

A small business owner for the past nine years, Benavanz was a commissioner for the State Senate and was deputy commissioner of the state labor and industry department for five years in the 1980s. Benavanz 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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It's in the stars —

Astronomer Bob Gehrz

by Judy Woodward

A sk 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 lore 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.
Music in the Park features Music with Words

by Barbara Cleussen

The St. Anthony Park 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 seconded 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 site transformation permit at their Interstate 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 office 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 Stelling Avenue on September 27. We will be accepting general refuse, furniture, mattresses, scrap metal, car parts, batteries, carpet, concrete, asbestos, 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. This newsletter would have 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. Copies 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.

Music in the Park

We can make use of artists while they are in town," she said. "They don't just jump 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 Mendelsohn String Quartet opens the series on Sunday, October 19, with Janacek's "String Quartet in D Major" based on Toslyov's The Kreutzer Sonata. Robert Mann, first violinist for 50 years in the Juilliard String Quartet, will perform with the quartet in Mendelsohn's "String Quintet." Having established a reputation for innovative 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, Guitar Quartet set is performed 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"
Tilden Park on track for playground improvements

by John Marine

Tilden Park was beginning to get lost amid all the broken glass and splintering, outdated playground equipment. "Over the years that we've been here, I've seen it deteriorate. And that was an invitation for others to use it. I saw more broken bottles and more ears 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 335 projects, the Tilden Park renovation ranks 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. Choices 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

The three Korean-born sisters of the Alto 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 pieces by Shostakovich, Arensky, and works written for the ensemble by American composers Jeffrey Nytch, Kenji Bunch, and Eric Ewazen.

Violin virtuosa Jorja Flecnis — concertmaster of the Minnesota Orchestra — takes center stage on Sunday, March 29 at 4 p.m. Flecnis's 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 Messiah's powerful "Narrative of the End of Time.'"

Next, on April 26, the Lark Quartet performs the Minnesota premiere of a new work by Aaron Kerns. Currently in residence with the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, Kerns is considered one of the most gifted modern young American composers. The Naumburg 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. Appalchian Waltz, the acclaimed recording from Mark O'Connor, Yo-Yo Ma, and Edgar Meyer, recently made history by becoming the first State Arts Board pianists 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.'"

Support your local businesses

Music in the Park is funded in part by support from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Minnesota State Arts Board. The Minnesota Board of Teaching can be reached at 651-296-4480. Music in the Park operates under a grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board in cooperation with the Minnesota Arts Board. For more information, call 651-244-6875.
Public spaces
Public spaces get a lot of notice around here. There’s an effort to clean up 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 domain. 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 Como Conservancy 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 visible 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 Skowheft 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’ retailscape. So, go ahead and go back to school with the little ones — read a little magic and enhance your life.

Next issue September 25

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.

Davids
Did it 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 Stuck as Robert Stack. Our error.

From the Bugle archives:


10 YEARS AGO . . . . Victory House Executive Director Lyle Tolleson 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 billboard hall incites neighborhood conflict . . . . Nasty smell travels through area . . . . Mill City Cafe closes . . .

Q & A

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 Robert Goddard. It is a biography about the strength of Eleanor Roosevelt.

John
The Left 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.

LETTERS

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

PARK BUGLE
2301 Como Avenue, Box 8126, St. Paul, MN 55108
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The Bugle is a community newspaper serving St. Anthony Park, Lauderdale, Falcon Heights and Northwester 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 community and encourage community participation.

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What was the favorite book that you read over summer?
L ast 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 ever since I 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 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 Jeanne Lefeld, the director of the Meals-on-Wheels program at Marmot 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**

At the table one tells of my great grandfather picking stones

I think of tools

Tools too

The utility

About rocks

-- Todd Ryan Ross

---

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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 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, startled. "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 planet 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 1990 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 fun 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. ■

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"We do everything together. Sara was even there when I found out I had diabetes."

Dr. Ternand at my HealthPartners clinic kept me out of the hospital by teaching me about insulin injections right away. We had a meeting that night.

Dr. Ternand got me in classes with a nutritionist and someone to show me how to use this machine that pricks your finger to see what your blood sugar is. So having diabetes doesn't really bother me. Sara and I still play fast-pitch softball. We were in the state tournament last year. We like to swim and play soccer, too."

"We do everything together. Sara was even there when I found out I had diabetes."

Dr. Ternand at my HealthPartners clinic kept me out of the hospital by teaching me about insulin injections right away. We had a meeting that night.

Dr. Ternand got me in classes with a nutritionist and someone to show me how to use this machine that pricks your finger to see what your blood sugar is. So having diabetes doesn't really bother me. Sara and I still play fast-pitch softball. We were in the state tournament last year. We like to swim and play soccer, too."

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Susanne

Remodeling
Concepts
by
Barbara
Hugens, 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 hefty 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.

HealthPartners
member Stephanie Koller and Sara Hoffman have been friends since kindergarten. Dr. Chris Ternand and the HealthPartners clinics are helping to keep them playing all their favorite sports together.

HealthPartners
Como Clinic
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When it comes to kitchen renovation the design professionals at TIF TRANSFORMED TREE are ready to help you...from basic cabinet and countertop layout and the incorporation of commercial appliances such as refrigerators and stoves, to the complete building project. Our experience and our willingness to answer your questions are just a couple of the reasons you should call us on for your remodeling needs.
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 private practice, loves cooking and carrying out the coffee house's daily operations.

"We love this location." She continued. "We have, to this 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."

Howard and Conner, 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 Conner, "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 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 Dubuque. The milk that makes their to-die-for lattes and cappuccino comes from the Genoa Guernsey Farms, a small, family-owned operation in Palisade, Minnesota.

Prairie Star to page 20

TWO Great Community Events!

St. Anthony Park Garage Sale
Sponsored by the St. Anthony Park Community Council, District 12
Saturday, September 13, 1997
Call the SAPCC for registration forms and more information at 292-7884

Comp Park and St. Anthony Park Neighborhood Clean-Up
Co-sponsored by districts 10 and district 12
Saturday, September 20, 1997
8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
State Fairgrounds, Hoyt and Snelling
Call SAPCC at 292-7884

ALL CONCERTS ON SUNDAYS AT ST. ANTHONY PARK UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST 2129 Commonwealth Ave. at Chelmsford St. in St. Paul
Music In The Park Series Early Bird Special Become a Season Subscriber by September 15 & Save! 7 Concert Series: $65 ($70 after September 15) 6 Concert Series (your choice of 6 concerts): $50 ($55 after September 15) Single Tickets: $12 advance purchase ($15 at the door, $6 student rush) Mark O'Connor Concert: $30 single tickets ($12 students) TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE BIBELOT SHOP (646-5651) & MICAWEVER'S BOOKSTORE (646-5508) in St. Anthony Park. GROUP RATES AVAILABLE Tickets / Information: 646-5286 or 644-4234 Music in the Park Series, 1333 Chelmsford St., St. Paul, MN 55108

Music in the Park Series: 1997-98 19th Season

OCT. 19 MENDELSSOHN STRING QUARTET
4 PM Nick Eanel and Nicholas Mann, violin; Maria Lambros, viola; Marcy Rosen, cello; with Robert Mann, viola

NOV. 15 BEVERLY HOCH, soprano
4 PM STEPHEN BURNS, trumpet with cello and piano harpsichord

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

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

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

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

MAY 10 MARK O'CONNOR
7 PM violin, mandolin, guitar
S
ate-mandated basic
kills 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 can call 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. For
some lucky students and their families, Capitol Hill is a true educational
find, a chance to get a private school education at
taxpayer expense. With an
extra dividend in ethnic and racial
diversity and an atmosphere that
 Principal Mary Dyvig says
makes “children want to be here.”
Capitol Hill offers grades 1-8
around a 33,000 square foot
intercourt in the huge Rondo
Education Center, which houses
at least two other grade schools as
well as the district’s 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
sheltered 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
count of local families has opted for Capitol Hill.
Drew Bjorklund, father of two students at Capitol Hill and a
St. Anthony Park resident, is
unsurprised 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
thrive in the school. “But
homework assignments require
parent involvement, and sometimes I’m the one who feels
stressed. Still, I feel I can keep
pace.”
Parent Melven Jones, also
of the Park, had a somewhat
different perspective on the
intellectual challenges of the
school’s atmosphere. Noting 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 lot of big
opportunities out of 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
may be in another setting, but
this is a good thing!”
Said Katherine Tate, St.
Anthony Park resident, mother of 3rd and 6th graders
guiding the 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 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 bit of a lost.”
Tate added, despite the
problem of “very busy parents,”
parent involvement in the school is
high. “The school selects out
those families who put a high
value on education.”
And that, of course, brings
up “selection,” the hot-button
issue at Capitol Hill. Student
disabilities and admissions testing-
that undeniably anti-agaristatian
educational notion — is 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
compromised 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.”
Principal Dyvig, 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
decided.
Principal Dyvig 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’t compete in a
setting like Capitol Hill.
“There are many gifted kids
who would be marginalized in
a regular school setting,” said
Tane. Added Dyvig, “In other
schools, kids aren’t
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 reviewed 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-racial, enthusiastic cluster
of 6 and 7-year-olds seated in
a rough semi-circle, paying close
attention to Ford, the pleasant-fawned
woman of middle years, with a
pretentiously aware access 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 unruly
sleeping body is present while his or her
elegant spirit wanders in regions far
from school. The children lean forward
with eagerness as Ford gives them
each 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
literary tradition of schools of
long ago, hazards a guess-
70 centimeters? Wrong! That
answer clearly didn’t make it in
the modern world of critical
thinking skills. A kindy
6-year-old said, “Cars are too
too 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 is
clearly "works. You can see it in
the faces of the children.
For information about
Capitol Hill call 293-5918.

Illustration by Wayne Petrow
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 13. 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.
* Registration for Langford Park and South St. Anthony Park activities runs from September 8 to 19. Langford activities include gymnastics, 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 Bee Gees, 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.

Luther’s own copy of a Psalter from the 15th century, with annotations in Latin, is among the rarest books in the collection. Luther personally used this book while he was a student at the University of Erfurt, and it was later donated to the Seminary by his former professor, Philipp Melanchthon.

One of the most distinctive features of the Rare Book Room is its collection of early printed Bibles. The first printed edition of the New Testament, published in 1462 by Johannes Gutenberg, is a highlight of the collection. This edition is one of only a few surviving copies, and it is considered a masterpiece of early printing.

The Rare Book Room also houses a collection of rare theological treatises and manuscripts. Among the most significant is a copy of the Koran, the holy book of Islam, printed in Persia in 1721.

“I’m So Clever” — A BOOK LOVER MOVES by David Angle

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 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 those boxes anyway?”

“I shrunk,” Amy said, clearly struggling. “I shrunk, you really want to know?”

“Okay,” I explained. “First comes the magazines. No Life or National Geographic or Reader Digest. We’re talking about Andy Warhol’s Interview, hundreds of ‘em. Oh, I packed a rare and complete set of Wig 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, Maisire Claire Maison, Casa Vogue, House Beautiful — etc.”

“You guys are in design,” Ashby gushed, while glancing at his coworker.

“Got a lot moving,” Ashby said, while stacking boxes onto the dolly. Suddenly all of our books were dismissed, forgotten. Worse, the movers reduced Jim and I to a pair of wanna-be decorators, who smoke fake cigarettes, drink Rob Roy’s and watch Masterpiece Theater.

I wanted to tell him about the rest — not Marky Mark by Marky Mark or The Soup 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 bench, 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 Levitt books. Then there’s Duda’s White Album and Play it As It Lays and River and so on. Doesn’t everyone go through a Joaquin Phoenix phase?

Later, during lunch, Ashby asked, “What if we said, ‘You can only move five books.’ Which one would you choose?”

“That’s impossible,” Jim answered, adding, “How about six?”


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

“So, you’ve only bought four to save,” Ashby scolded. “Guess the rest is pulp puddings, like a kid’s teddy bear, teenager’s telephone and businessman’s Lexicon.”

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 Seifert
The Joy of Books

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 Maren D’Ann

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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 631-1000 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 Hawkins and Clay Christensen, are four-year terms. The mayoral seat, now held by Jeff Davis, 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 631-6000.

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 picnics and friendship. "Paas is for Socker"

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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 9 to 11 a.m. Volunteer shifts run for three hours with flexible scheduling. Call Karyn Thompson at 369-2427 to participate.

La Leche League meeting
The advantages of breastfeeding is the topic at the Como-Midway La Leche League meeting on Tuesday, September 10 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 Joanne at 644-0302 or Paye at 849-6356.

PEOPLE

Phyllis Jenkins 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 1963.

Bryan Todd Christianson and Benjamin Jay Tressid 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 644-3005 for location information.

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Fit and 40:
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Join us on
October 18 for our 40th birthday party

HealthPartners Como Clinic – your neighborhood’s only full-service medical and dental clinic – is 40 years old this year. We’ve come a long way since opening in 1957. Today, our 225 staff members serve more than 31,000 patients.

To thank our patients and community, we are holding “Fit and 40: A Como Celebration.” Everyone is invited to this carnival-style open house. Join your family, friends and neighbors at the clinic on Saturday, October 18 from 1-3 p.m.

Our 40th birthday celebration will include:

- Free flu shots for the first 100 guests
- Free blood pressure checks
- Free facepainting
- AHSIE® and KAZOO® from Aahs World Radio
- The Teddy Bear Band (bring your bear!)  
- A reading corner in Pediatrics
- Lots of prizes
- Birthday cake and other refreshments

Mary Thornton Phillips

Published and printed by the St. Anthony Community, for St. Anthony, Minnesota.
More than penmanship — Goldstein show explores the elegant calligraphy of Jin Seien

by Amy Coanson

ost 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 Art, 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 distingishes 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 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 an antique Buddhist cassock.

“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 McNicol Hall, 1856 Buford Avenue.

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EXHIBITS

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

The exhibit features the work of Jim 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.

MUSIC

Popular Lutheran pianist and Luther Seminary alumnus Charles "Jake" Dykhuis offers "An Evening of Piano Music" on Sunday, September 14 at 7 p.m. Dykhuis’ concert includes classical piano music plus ragtime and original novelty songs. A 1993 graduate of Luther Seminary, Dykhuis is associate pastor of Calvary Lutheran Church in Park Rapids. The free concert will be staged in the Chapel of the Cross in Northwestern Hall.

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

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.

The St. Anthony Park Writers Workshop meets on Tuesday, September 2, 7:30 p.m., at 1261 Cleveland Avenue North. Call 646-3433 for information.

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

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Dorcass Wang, 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 companion 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 remembers, "but Christians had it the worst."

The ordeal 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 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," she says. 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 untamed skin and crooked-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 forms are 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 Gromost, associate director of the Global Mission Institute at Luther Seminary.

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 Christian and a Chinese, 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 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 saying from China, "Minnesotas have a very spiritual winter, you know. Many are called, but few are chosen."

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 caracteristically succinct. "I leave it in God's hands," concluded Wang, but added, "I want someone to go back to China. That's my purpose. I await God's call."

Good Works

Dorcass Wang leads Faith Chinese Fellowship

by Judy Woodward

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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, Park sick community room, 7 a.m.
- Falconers 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 498-6356 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" Dyhag 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 Larpenteur 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.
- "New & 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 Sicita Massey reads from The Soldierman'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-made go-cart to pristine racing condition. Photo by Bobby Johnson

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OBITUARIES

Beatrice Bowden
Beatrice "Beet" M. Bowden 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. Bowden taught English as a Second Language for many years at the International Institute of Minnesota.

Preceded in death by her husband, Roger, and daughter, Nicole, she is survived by her daughter Barb, Filum; grandchildren, Jeff Benson, Sue McCoy, Lisa Nyhus, Kris Bonadies, Carey Howells, and Jennifer Marks; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Lyle Block
Como Park resident Lyle W. Block, 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 Adilla. Survivors include his wife, Marlene; children, James, Mary Jo Person, Jeune Larum, and Patricia Sheahan; and grandchildren, Brian Person, Lindsay and Nichole Larum.

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 Coulers moved to Billings, Montana, to be near their daughter, Nancy LeCampion. She is survived by her husband, Samuel; daughter, Nancy LeCampion; 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 Ruhlman, and their two sons. Most recently, he lived in Dinkytown.

At the time of his death, he worked in a pharmacy 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 Pladziewicz. He is survived by his wife, Sarah; and children, Roy Foster; Jake Foster; Angela Whitman; Jeremy Foster; Craig Foster and Ian Foster; grandchildren, Lacie and A网站建设ent Whitman; and sisters, Alice Kootsch, Emma Boebelock, and Audrey Burke.

Gertrude Gardanian
Gertrude R. Gardanian 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 Sea Hi Rise. Gardanian worked as a sewing machine operator and was active in the residents' council at Sea Hi-Rise.

Preceded in death by her husband, Philip, she is survived by her 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 Brest, Joe is survived by his parents, David and Theresa, brother, Matthew; grandparents, Bill and Donna Heath; and grandfather, Frank Brest.

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 Rodman. Survivors include his wife, Teressa; children, Susan Myrher, Gary, Richard, and Paul; brother, Edward; sisters, Ellen Tollefson, Marie Spencer, Marcelle 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 Brannon Street, he lived in Anich Hills.

A lifelong 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 1988. 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 Dowswell 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 Regent 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 Foundation fellowship and a Samuel Fulbright fellowship 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.

Myrn Pederson
Myrn 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 sisters, Dorothy Mathews, and Anna Mathews, who survive.

Pederson is also survived by her husband, George, and sister, Dorothy Mathews, and Anna Mathews, who survive.

Pederson is also survived by 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, Turk is survived by children, Casanaye King-Anderson, Scott and Anthony, and sister, Flo Davis.

John Lunde Whittemore
South St. Anthony Park neighbor John (Jack) Lunde Whittemore, owner of the short-lived yet beloved Mill City Cafe on Raymond Avenue, died on July 26, after a long battle with chronic myelogeneous 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 last year.

He was born in Northfield, Minnesota and grew up in Washington, D.C. He graduated from 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.

Compiled by Ann Bulger

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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 hec with it.' Luckily, she had the gift for getting it right the first time." Her son said Brink would mull over an idea until 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. David Brink provides some indirect evidence that his father may have chafed at the differing popular interest shown to the family's two authors. "In the beginning, my mother tried her work out on my father," explained Brink. "He was very, 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 of his family'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 for Brink 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.