BUCHE

P.O. Box 8126, St. Paul, MN 55108

Local scouts brighten the season with handmade holiday wreaths

by Lisa Steinmann

welcoming wreath of freshly cut evergreen branches hung with snowy pine cones and bound with a red velvet ribbon is a popular holiday decoration. In Minnesota, a wreath is a celebration of the bounty of balsam fir that grows here and brings rich color and scent to the spare background of our winter season. In St. Anthony Park, wreaths also mean that Boy Scout Troop 17 has been busy. Both the younger Cub Scouts of Pack 22 and the older Boy Scouts sell wreaths in the neighborhood to raise money for their activities.

Three years ago, Troop 17 leader Mark Hansen decided that rather than simply order wreaths from the manufacturers for the scouts to sell, he would teach the scouts how to make the wreaths from scratch. Hansen's background makes him uniquely qualified for the undertaking. He knows all about Minnesota's evergreen trees - he works as a research forester at the University of Minnesota. While growing up in St. Anthony Park, he often joined his Forestry Professor father on outings into the forest. His father also established Hansen's Tree Farm, a cut-your-own Christmas tree business that Mark Hansen now runs with his brother Dave Hansen. Hansen traces his interest in wreath making back to his grandfather. He remembers

helping him "hand-tie" wreaths to decorate their family home for the holidays.

For the Scouts of Troop 17 the first step and biggest part of the process is to cut the boughs by the end of October. According to scouts Otto Gockman and



Dillon Bernsten, "cutting down trees with axes" is the best part. For the past few years troop leaders Hansen and Rob Lageson have taken the Scouts up to Sugar Bush, a maple syrup farm near Grand Rapids. The farm is owned by south St. Anthony Park resident Beth Collins. Armed with clippers, hand saws and axes, the Scouts spend the weekend cutting out the balsam trees from among the maples. Most of the trees are cut down for branches. Several are left intact and are donated to neighborhood

churches. One will go up in front of the St. Anthony Park Library.

After trucking the load of trees and branches back to St. Paul, the scouts set up shop in Hansen's garage. Over the next couple of weeks, scouts pull on work gloves and help with the

various aspects of wreath assembly. The scouts have streamlined the process of tying the branches to the hoop frames with the purchase of a machine that operates by foot pedal. First the branches must be trimmed and gathered into bunches to prepare them for the machine. Pine cones are touched up with a bit of paint to give them a snowy look before they are wired on. Finally the red velvet ribbons are tied into bows by hand and added as the crowning touch to the finished wreaths.

Once the Cub Scouts in the neighborhood are finished with their door-to-door sales, the older Scouts begin their

wreath sales. They sell to anyone who missed the Cub Scouts. Wreaths come in two sizes, two and three feet in diameter. They sell for twelve and twenty-five dollars respectively. If a Boy Scout doesn't knock on your door, they also sell through neighborhood churches and Hardware Hank at 2290 Como Ave.

This year the Scouts made 160 wreaths. When their supply runs out they do supplement with wreaths purchased from a local

Holiday wreaths to page 2



Mario, Zlata and Lenny Pozaic show Mary Griffin and her daughter a Bosnian coffee grinder. Photo by Truman Olson

Looking for a homeland

Bosnian family forges a new life in St. Anthony Park

by Judy Woodward

The Pozaic family is looking for a new homeland and a new life. Their search has brought them to St. Anthony Park, where Mario, 47, Zlata, 42, and their 19-year-old son Lenny have been living since last summer. Seated in their spartan but spotlessly clean apartment on a recent afternoon, the family told a visitor about the political madness that drove them from their comfortable Bosnian home and the hopes that have drawn them to Minnesota.

"It's hard to lose your native motherland," says Mario in Serbo-Croatian, as Lenny translates, "But it's even more difficult to find a new one." They sum up the changes that a decade of civil war has wreaked in their former homeland. "Bosnia no longer exists in the way we had known it. Perhaps it never did. Maybe the last 50 years [of superficial unity from the end of World War II until the outbreak of hostilities] were a mask for what was really going on under the surface."

The Pozaics credit part of their troubles to the fact that they were an ethnically mixed family in a society that had gradually gone mad with the notion of sectarianism. Mario was raised a Roman Catholic; Zlata is of mixed Eastern Orthodox and Muslim descent. What had given them a pleasantly cosmopolitan outlook before the Yugoslav civil war, now made them targets for fanatical "ethnic cleansers" on all sides of

the conflict when it reached their small town on the Bosnian border near Croatia. "Now," says Mario wryly, speaking of his family's mixed status, "We're already American. We achieved the American melting pot before we even came to this country."

Six years ago, the Pozaics fled to Germany. Then came the long wait to find a refugee organization that would sponsor their entry into the United States. Help finally came in June of this year when Park resident Mary Griffin and her family agreed to cosponsor the Pozaics with the help of a refugee agency of the Episcopal Church. The family

"It's hard to lose your native motherland," says Mario in Serbo-Croatian, as Lenny translates. "But it's even more difficult to find a new one."

lived in Griffin's attic until they found their own apartment, and she has become an unabashed booster for her former tenants. "I was thinking of Ellis Island [before they arrived], but what we got was a family of hip European types. They came on June 25, and by August 1, they were in their own apartment and had found jobs. They're not afraid of hard or

Pozaic family to page 2

Success for Como neighborhood's Tilden Park

by Laurel Ostrow

ike many of us, Wendi Schirvar and Amy Marshall used to see government as a big system that was difficult to access. However, when a park near their homes seemed to be changing from a playground and recreational area to a hangout for drinking and smoking juveniles, they decided to do something about it. A grass roots movement began to "take back Tilden Park." This effort was initiated by a few residents and supported by many others, who became involved in the St. Paul budgetary process, which makes Capitol Improvement Budget (CIB) funds available every other year. The application for funds is arduous and involved, requiring persistence and commitment. Moreover, there are hundreds of worthy applicants.

The St. Paul Parks and Recreation Board was very involved in the project. William Peske, a landscape architect with the Board, worked intensely with the neighborhood group. Schirvar says Peske's patience and cooperation, and the support of the St. Paul Parks and Recreation Board, were outstanding. Peske modified the plans according to the needs and desires of the neighborhood group, and was extremely responsive to people, despite the work he was also doing on the Como Park Conservatory.

The Tilden group lobbied the St. Paul City Council for CIB funds over a two year period. The effort became known as the Tilden Park Renovation Project and made the first cut of applicants, placing ninth on the list. The Tilden Park lobby was persistent in phoning key individuals and attending meetings in which decisions were made. When a bus load of decision makers arrived at the park, a rally was held, during which people shouted, "Tilden, Tilden." Finally, CIB money in the amount of \$294,000 was awarded in order to

renovate the park.

On October 10 of this year, a picnic was held and a ceremonial groundbreaking took place. This was a festive event, during which music was played, speeches were delivered and sand was turned. Also, many area businesses had booths and offered games for kids with prizes, balloons and free food and drinks. The plans for the new park were made available. Shade

Tilden Park to page 3

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a neighborhood tradition pages 10-11

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St. Anthony Park Community Council

Please plan on attending the St. Anthony Park Community Council Holiday Meeting

Luther Seminary, Wednesday, January 13, 7 p.m. Olson Student Center — upstairs meeting room

Thanks to Luther Seminary for hosting our meeting again this year!

Do you need information on Recycling, Snow Plowing, City Services, Neighborhood Events, or Volunteer Opportunities? Call the Council offices at 649-5992.

Are you a Senior Citizen who needs help with household chores or snow shoveling? Call Jean at 649-5992 for more information on the Neighborhood Senior Chore Service. This referral service is offered at no charge to Seniors in the St. Anthony Park, Como Park, Hamline-Midway, Merrian Park, and the North End neighborhoods.

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 Executive Director: Heather Worthington

649-5992

Members: Bob Arndorfer, Christopher Causey, Kenneth Chin-Purcell, Sue Davem, Joseph Driscoll, Ron Dufault, Sherman Eagles, Suzanne Fantle, Terrence Gockman, Scott Hamilton, Ken Holdernan, Mary Jackson, Deborah Kuehl, Nowell Leitzke, Alice Magnuson, Bill Miller and Su Olson

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Pozaic family . . . from page 1

dirty jobs, either. I love people who are not afraid to go out and find things for themselves."

When asked why they chose to settle in Minnesota, the family mentions close friends from Bosnia, now living in Richfield, who helped pave the way. But Mario can't resist adding a reason that will appeal to all true Minnesotans. Speaking English for the first time, he laughingly explains, "We knew there is beautiful winter here. I like more winter than summer."

Mario Pozaic is a thin, wiry man with a neat brown ponytail and prominent laugh lines that even years of refugee status have not been able to erase. His son Lenny is a thirty-year-younger version of his father. Facing each other across the coffee table, their blue jeans-clad knees almost touching, father and son present identical sharp-nosed profiles. Mario moves restlessly in his chair as his son attempts to translate into English the impassioned volleys of his father's Serbo-Croatian.

Meanwhile Zlata, a slender, brown-haired woman, turns her armchair at an angle to her husband and son. She interjects an occasional remark as Mario explains that the family was

quickly able to locate jobs and an apartment with the help of Griffin and other members of the congregation of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church. Although she is resolute in her appreciation of

"Bosnia no longer exists in the way we had known it. Perhaps it never did."

the family's recent good fortune, her eyes fill with tears when she is asked directly about the difficulties of starting life again in a new country and a new

Father and son pause in their antiphonal response to a visitor's question and turn identical, wary gazes on Zlata. "Mama, no tears," says Mario gently in English.

Mario and Zlata, who both worked as accountants in Bosnia, say their immediate ambition is to perfect their English. Then comes what they call their "special wish." "We want," says Mario, "to give Lenny the opportunity to go to college, to give him a better future.'

Lenny, who speaks fluent German and English in addition to Serbo-Croatian, plans to start college next year with the possible goal of someday becoming a professional translator. For now, he's working at a local bagel shop while he explores the intricacies of American society.

Music dominates the Pozaics' small apartment. Mario's CD and cassette collection covers one wall of the living room, and there's no generation gap in the family's musical tastes. Father and son share enthusiasm for everything from classical music to heavy metal. Mario says that someday he'd like to own a house with a basement that could accommodate the huge LP collection he had to leave behind in Bosnia.

Meanwhile, there's an even more pressing goal. Recounting a funny incident that happened at his new workplace, Mario reflects, 'Americans can laugh about things like an employee with a large box in his arms tripping over a chair.'

Lenny explains that his father couldn't laugh. "Maybe he's lost his sense of humor after all these

"In the last few years," says Mario, "We were seldom really laughing from our hearts.'

Then he pauses a moment and adds, "Maybe we'll laugh again. I hope so."

Holiday wreaths

supplier to meet the popular demand. The proceeds fund group activities during the year and individual Scouts earn dollar credits toward Scout summer camp.

According to Hansen, "Minnesota is the biggest

. from page 1

supplier of wreaths nationwide." He attributes this to the generous supply of balsam, the seasonal labor force and a long tradition of the wreath-making business among Minnesotans.

In addition to providing Scouts with an experience Scout Ieremy Vranek calls "totally worth it because it's fun," it is nice to know that local Scouts have joined in a tradition that provides such a special decoration for the holiday season.

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Billboard restrictions approved

Special district sign plan approved by St. Anthony Park Community Council

by Dave Healy

illboards may become a less prominent feature of the local landscape if current efforts by the St. Anthony Park Community Council are successful. At its November 11 meeting, the Council unanimously approved a Special District Sign Plan for the St. Anthony Park neighborhood that would impose sign restrictions, prohibit the construction of nonconforming signs, and eliminate existing nonconforming signs over the next 10 years.

St. Paul's Zoning Code allows communities within the city to apply for special district status, which permits a neighborhood to adopt its own provisions regarding signage within its borders.

Currently, the Highland Village, Grand Avenue, and Smith-Dodd neighborhoods have special districts. St. Anthony Park would become the fourth special district in St. Paul if the Community Council's request is approved by the City Council.

At present a city-wide moratorium on the construction of new billboards is in effect. It will expire in December 1999, or earlier if the Legislative Advisory Commission so recommends and the City Council acts on such a recommendation. The Commission is a group set up by the City Council to study the billboard issue. St. Anthony Park Community Council Executive Director Heather Worthington served on the Commission for six months.

"I think people are visually tired of billboards, especially along Highway 280."

— Heather Worthington

Achieving special district status would allow St. Anthony Park to impose its own signage requirements even after the billboard moratorium expires. The proposal would prohibit all advertising signs but would permit signs that "identify the name, logo and nature of the business carried on in the premises." It would not affect billboards on I-94, which is federally controlled, nor on signs built before 1971 on Highway 280.

The Community Council's

proposal is a response to citizen complaints about billboards. Currently there are 41 billboards in the St. Anthony Park neighborhood. "I think people are visually tired of billboards, especially along Highway 280," said Heather Worthington.

Worthington noted that local efforts to reduce or eliminate billboards reflect increasing attention to this issue nationally. "What many people are saying is that while billboards may be appropriate in some places, they don't want them in residential areas," she said.

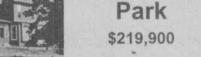
Worthington stressed that the Community Council's Sign Plan is not content driven. "We're reacting to the structures themselves, not to the message on any particular billboard. We see billboards proliferating, and we don't want to see a net increase in our neighborhood," she said. Worthington also emphasized that the current proposal has the full support of the St. Anthony Park Business Association, which was represented on the committee that drafted the plan.

St. Anthony Park's plan was initially drafted by attorney Bob Straughn, a local resident. Straughn concedes that the most controversial part of the plan is its 10-year amortization period, during which all nonconforming signs in the special district would

Billboards to page 6



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A Historic St. Anthony Park Victorian

This wonderful home sits on a huge double lot, with a commanding view of beautiful Langford Park. If you've seen this home before, you won't believe the changes! New paint, wallpaper, refinished floors, etc., etc., etc.! If you haven't seen it yet, DON'T WAIT! The opportunity to own such a beautiful home at this price on St. Anthony Park's best lot will never happen again!

Steve Townley 644-3557 · 2190 Como Avenue

Tilden Park . . . from page 1

trees, park benches and new playground equipment are included in the plans.

An important aspect of Tilden Park is its history. From 1889 to 1974, Tilden was the site of an elementary school. Eventually, the school building became dilapidated and the school population combined with that of Chelsea Elementary.

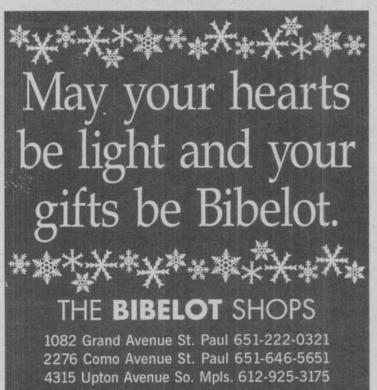
Residents have become unified because of the park renovation project, and that sense of purpose has brought the community together. Schirvar says that each individual must ask "What can I do?" Fred Clark, who was the principal of Tilden School in 1956, echos Shirvar's sentiment. He once said, "Citizens must not only be aware of the ideals of service, but they must also be willing to assume

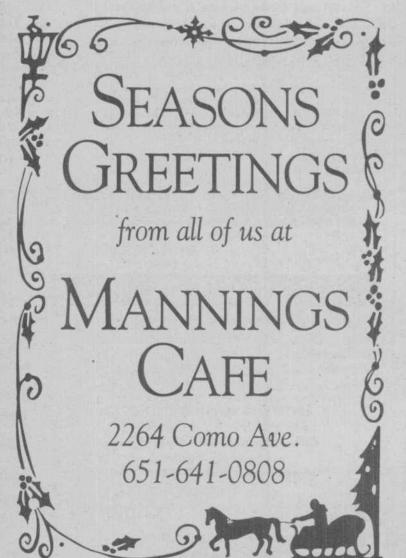
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responsibility. Citizens must acknowledge that acceptance of privilege implies the acceptance of responsibility as well." These words are appropriate in light of the achievements of those who have succeeded because they believed in the system and took responsibility for the welfare of their communities.

A celebration and ceremonial groundbreaking was held at Tilden Park on October 10.







EDITORIAL

A hard gift to give

Physical presence is the finest gift one human can give another in their time of need. This sentiment is expressed by Erica Lepp, who monitors human rights violations in Guatemala (page 7), but it is also the theme of so many stories in this issue. While it's often appropriate to help others financially, sometimes the gift of time is the most valuable — and most difficult.

There are, I reason with myself, only so many hours in the day. And we're asked to do so much with any extra moments we do find — spend time with our families and children, stop to smell the roses, exercise, better our minds. It is difficult to do more. I'm not sure what the solution is, but I do know I love hearing how others manage to rearrange their lives or priorities to do exactly that. Such stories offer me a chance to examine how moments can be carved out of a day; how I can move beyond my own sphere and do more.

Soon, Erica Lepp will return to Guatemala, carolers will be singing (page 10), the participants in Befrienders will help young mothers (page 13), and Mary Griffin will visit refugees from a war torn land (page 1). All of these people have chosen to give their time — to give the gift of their physical presence.

If you've got a few moments or more to offer, check out the list of volunteer opportunities on page 7. Time and physical presence are hard gifts to give, which is why they're so precious.

THE BUGLE STAFF WISHES YOU HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Next issue December 24

Deadlines:
Display ads......December 10
News & classifieds......December 11

BUGLE

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

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LETTERS

Plans for Community Garden in jeopardy

I was sitting in the dentist's chair this morning (Dr. Kirkegaard's) as he was fixing my latest dental affliction. He had his little tools in my mouth. He was cheerful, as he always is, and then he asked, "How is the community's garden project going?"

I mumbled, "I'm so demoralized that I don't even want to talk about it."

Well, he did something that dentist's rarely do. He took his tools out of my mouth and asked me to tell him what was going on. So I did. I told him what was happening and why I was so down about it.

I told him that the railroad has continued to keep us at arm's length and avoid any discussion with us about ways to collaborate regarding our interests and theirs. I told him that just as it had looked as though the railroad was going to sell us the entire parcel of property for our park vision, one of their customers rolled right in and totally rebuilt the tracks which lay on the property, saying that they had to use them (though they had not used them in at least eight years and the tracks required extensive rebuilding). I told him that now the railroad is willing to negotiate with us to purchase a portion of the property . . . the portion which includes the community garden and a bit more. They say they can't possibly sell a piece with track on it. I told him that we'd asked the St. Anthony Park Community Council to try to negotiate for more parts of the property so that we could at least work around the track.

I feel upset at the way they've treated us. I feel disappointed that our glorious vision will have to be limited. I feel that we've let our friends and neighbors down if we're not able to pull this off the way we dreamed.

Dr. Kirkegaard listened and then said, "This is such a wonderful project and is doing such good things for the neighborhood. You can't give up. You just need to take the long view. Do what you can do now and keep working toward the vision."

"But what do I tell people? What do we write in the Bugle? If we say what's happening then no one will support the project anymore and we won't be able to raise the money to buy any of it."

Then he said something that really surprised me. He said, "Just tell people how you truly feel. They'll listen and you'll be surprised, they'll understand." (This is a dentist?)

So, here I am. Telling all of you that I've been feeling very demoralized and sad and responsible. But after talking with Dr. Kirkegaard I felt a whole lot better. I even asked if we could put a poster with pledge cards in his office and he said, "Yes, of course." So, I felt even better and went to the bank and put one up, then to Park Service, and I began to think that we can do this. We can adapt to what we can do now. We can keep the vision and have a long view. People understand that this is a vision, a creative work in progress. There will be glitches along the way but we'll get there. Probably the best part of it all will be that we all worked together and created something beautiful right here where we live. So, please, keep those pledge cards coming in! Look for the poster with the Happy Choo Choo.

We will continue to keep you informed of developments.

Sue Conner

Story on homeopathy onesided

Each month, I turn to the Park Bugle to keep myself informed about the issues affecting my community. However, I and other residents of the St. Anthony Park neighborhood were disserved by the article "Park chiropractor Carla Breunig adds homeopathy to practice" appearing in the October issue. While the article goes to great length to tout homeopathy, there is no mention at all that homeopathy consistently fails every clinical test of its efficacy. Please allow me to tell the Bugle readers the rest of the story.

In brief, homeopathy operates on the "law of

infentesimals." This is the absurd contention that certain natural substances, even when diluted with distilled water until not a single molecule of the original substance remains, still have the mysterious ability to cure disease. To date, no homeopath has explained how this water retains the "memory" of the original, supposedly curative substance.

There is much more to be said about the dubious nature of homeopathic "medicine," but let me conclude by commenting on the article's mention that there is no homeopathic licensing yet in Minnesota. Amen to that, I say. Why

Letters to page 9

Why I support the Bugle



Next July our Park Bugle will celebrate its 25th birthday. For nearly a quarter century, it has brought monthly, pertinent, timely information to our doors — the kind of service that no other communication medium can do — and we appreciate it.

The unique features of each section of the Bugle tell me something of interest only a neighborhood paper can do — new enterprises in the community, local school and religious programs, opportunities for recreation, stories about people I know, a forum for public opinion, and a host of other things that would fill a page.

- Gerald McKay



CLIP AND SAVE THE BUGLE'S 1999 DEADLINES

DISPLAY ADS

Thursday, January 14 Thursday, February 11 Thursday, March 11 Thursday, April 15

Thursday, May 13

Thursday, June 10

Thursday, July 15 Thursday, August 12 Thursday, September 16 Thursday, October 14 Thursday, November 11 Thursday, December 9 News and Classifieds

Friday, January 15
Friday, February 12
Friday, March 12
Friday, April 16
Friday, May 14

Friday, June 11

Friday, August 13
Friday, September 17
Friday, October 15
Friday, November 12
Friday, December 10

Friday, July 16

COMMENTARY



Santa takes the stand

by Warren Hanson

hile flipping through the channels late the other

night, something on C-Span caught my eye. It was one of those dreary senate hearings they have on that channel so often. A silver-haired senior senator with a southern drawl was asking very pointed questions of a beleaguered-looking man hunched over a microphone at a table in the middle of the room. The man had an unmistakably familiar look. The red suit. The full white beard. The nose like a cherry. Why, it was Santa! Being grilled before a senate subcommittee!

It seems that the jolly old elf is the center of some kind of anti-trust investigation. The Federal Trade Commission is involved. Allegations have been made. Can you believe it? The words "Santa" and "allegations" shouldn't even appear in the same sentence together. Yet here we are. This is late twentieth century America, and this is the way we do things.

As I understand it, Santa is being accused of monopolizing the holiday gift-distribution market. Apparently a small start-up company called YuleScape is alleging that Santa, as the head of a gigantic multinational organization, has a strangle-hold on the industry. They are asking that all of Santa's proprietary data, such as good kid/bad kid databases, global routes and flight information, chimney schematics and the like, be made public, in order to encourage an environment of fair competition.

What really hurts is that YuleScape was started by a

couple of Santa's own elves, who left his organization to start their own operation out of their garage just south of the North Pole. Their big break came when they were able to woo Donner and Blitzen away from Santa's stable, by offering substantial hay incentives and better working conditions. By utilizing the very latest technology, YuleScape was able to promise the reindeer lighter loads and shorter hours in the air.

The main issue being discussed in the senate hearings was chimney access. The accusation is that Santa has exclusive rights to the world's chimneys. Without equal access, there can be no competition. And without competition, there is no place for new ideas to be brought into the industry. We are stuck with having our toys delivered the same way they have for centuries.

You see, Santa is still tied to old technology. Toys made by hand. A very labor-intensive delivery system. But YuleScape poured most of its initial capital into one of those new Japanese sleighs, with a sleek aerodymanic design, lighter-weight materials, and greatly increased hay mileage. The coefficient of drag is practically nil. Thus the cargo capacity is increased substantially, without requiring any increased deerpower.

Santa, on the other hand, still insists on using his original sleigh. It is increasingly difficult to find parts, or to find mechanics who know how to work on his vintage vehicle. In addition, the reindeer and many of his elves are nearing retirement age. And in the current job market, it is extremely difficult to find skilled help.

YuleScape also promises speedier delivery. They make claims that children will no longer have to wait until morning for their Christmas deliveries. By leveraging all the very latest technology, including satellite-based global positioning systems, a web site where children can place toy orders up until the last minute, and their own internet search engine called HoHo®, YuleScape promises to have all the toys delivered by midnight on Christmas Eve. Guaranteed.

But there is a snag. This promise doesn't take into

account that most homes are still operating with old chimney technology. In order to make good on the midnight delivery guarantee, a home has to have the latest, fastest chimney available, in order to maximize throughput. But the public seems reluctant to invest in new chimney technology, fearing that, by next Christmas, their expensive new chimneys will be woefully slow and out-of-date. The feeling seems to be, "Hey, Santa has been delivering toys through our old chimney all these years, and it works just fine. Why risk investing in something new, only to find the new system buggy. The last thing we need is a chimney crash!"

Still, even with public sentiment on his side, Santa faces hurdles going into the new century. Current environmental issues make it increasingly difficult to operate in the traditional way. Last year, Santa was forced to install emission control devices on all the reindeer. And this year a group of government scientists has been trying to determine just why the hole in the earth's ozone layer is located directly above Santa's stables.

So, facing a new era of deregulation, increased competition, and mounting environmental restrictions, will we be seeing a new, leaner, meaner Santa? I don't think so. As the senate hearings broke up, and Santa stepped outside to face reporters, his eyes were still twinkling, his dimples still merry! As he answered the rapid-fire questions from the press, his droll little mouth was still drawn up like a bow! He ho-ho-hoed into the TV cameras, and his round little belly still shook when he laughed, like a bowl full of jelly.

I was relieved. It was clear that, despite the onslaught of modern trends, corporate takeovers, bears and bulls and sharks, Santa will always be the same.

I turned off the TV and headed upstairs to bed. But just before I drifted off, a familiar figure passed across the moon, and a deep and cheerful voice was heard to exclaim, "To all a good-night!"

Thanks, readers, for contributing to the Bugle fund drive



With the contributions from those listed below, our fund drive has collected \$5,809.

Thanks to these recent contributors and all the past contributors who have helped us approach this year's goal of \$20,000.

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FEB. 14 JOANNE BRACKEEN, PIANO with Eddie Gomez, bass

4 PM with Eddie Gomez, bass

Valentine's Day Jazz Concert

MAR. 7 THE WEILERSTEIN TRIO

4 PM Donald Weilerstein, violin; Alisa Weilerstein, cello; Vivian Hornik Weilerstein, piano

APR. 25 THE CAVANI STRING QUARTET

7 PM Annie Fullard & Mari Sato, violins; Kirsten Docter, viola;
Merry Peckham, cello; with the

Cambiata String Quartet

MAY 9 THELMA HUNTER, piano; 7 PM MICHAEL SUTTON, violin; JOSEPH JOHNSON, cello

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Falcon Heights pharmacist Julie Johnson takes more than a minute with customers

by Lisa Steinmann

n a confident and reassuring voice, local pharmacist Julie Johnson advises hundreds of thousands of people every day on subjects ranging from antibiotics to vaccines. Last April she became the host of a national radio show called The Pharmacist Minute. The show, broadcast daily on 1100 stations nationwide in both English and Spanish, provides information on drugs and health issues. The Pharmacist Minute is sponsored by the American Pharmacist's Association and grant money from Johnson and Johnson, whose product Pepcid AC is the advertised sponsor of the show.

Johnson heard about the job while teaching in the College of Pharmacy at the University of Minnesota. Although she had no prior broadcast experience, she read the audition script over the phone and got the job. She now travels to a sound studio in New York every few months to record the spots. Johnson is very pleased with the quality of writing that goes into the show. The scripts are prepared by folks at the American Pharmacists Association, the main national, professional organization for pharmacists. According to Johnson, "The scripts emphasize good communication between doctor, patient and pharmacist." She adds that "doctors are receptive to pharmacist suggestions because we see patients and there are so many brand choices, and herbal and vitamin alternatives add complexity." Recent topics on



the radio show have included a look at "Doctors and Pharmacists Working Together" and "Nutritional Supplements."

Julie Johnson's main job is as pharmacist and partner at Blomberg Pharmacy in Falcon Heights. She and partner Norma Nisle have owned the store for the past ten years. The pharmacy has been there for 70 years and has had only three owners since the business was started by Robert Blomberg.

Johnson and her partner are currently remodeling their store and have planned a better arrangement of the pharmaceutical and retail aisles as well as the busy post office substation within the shop.

In Johnson's experience people value the services offered by a small, community pharmacy such as Blombergs. For example, the pharmacists at Blombergs offer customers

"Pharmaceutical Care Workups." For a fee and by appointment, one of the pharmacists will go over all the drugs — prescription and over-the-counter, vitamins and even cosmetics - a person may be using and make sure that they are all safe in combination for that particular person. Johnson confirms that being a pharmacist "is a busy profession and we're not doctors, but we offer customers time and attention.'

To catch *The*Pharmacist Minute, tune into local station

WLOL-AM. The spots run randomly throughout the day. The American macists Association has a site at www.aphanet.org

Pharmacists Association has a Web site at www.aphanet.org which lists other radio stations that broadcast the show. For pharmacist advice in person and

Besides hosting a national radio program, Julie Johnson's job is as pharmacist and partner at Blomberg Pharmacy in Falcon Heights. The pharmacy has been there for 70 years and has had only three owners in that time.

on the spot, visit Blomberg Pharmacy at 1583 Hamline Ave. North in Falcon Heights. ■

Billboards . . .

have to be removed. Such a

amortization requirement,

requirement would be unique

Straughn notes, all a neighbor-

hood can do is hold the line

Achieving special district

St. Anthony Park to impose

requirements even after the

status would allow

billboard moratorium

its own signage

expires.

in the city of St. Paul. Without an

Photo by Truman Olson

from page 3



FOR UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN!

Advent Vespers, Sunday, November 29, 7:00pm

Sunday School Christmas Program Sunday, December 13, 2:30pm

Christmas Eve worship, 4 & 11pm Christmas Day worship, 10am

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against the construction of new signs. "If the intent is to reduce the number of signs, you don't have a mechanism without an amortization period," he said.

Now that the Community
Council has approved a Special
District Sign Plan, it will be sent
to the St. Paul City Council, who
will refer it to the Planning
Commission, which will hold a
public hearing on the proposal at a
yet-to-be-determined date. Local
residents interested in testifying at
that hearing may call Heather
Worthington at 649-5992.

Park resident monitors human rights violations in Guatemala

rica Lepp, a St. Anthony Park resident, recently returned from a sixmonth stay in Guatemala. In the small village of Santa Elena, she worked as a volunteer Human Rights Accompanier for the National Coordinating Office on Refugees and Displaced of Guatemala

meant security for Santa Elena because the Guatemalan government knew I was there, and that I would report any violations to the international community."

She quit her job as a computer programmer when she heard about Guatemalan refugees asking for volunteers. What she found was quite different than life

in the Twin Cities. "The people live in thatched-roof homes and cook over open fires. They grown their own food mainly corn, beans and squash. They enjoy farming and living in the lush Inxan jungle, but they struggle for food security. In many ways, they are worse off than when they fled in 1981.'

When Guatemalan refugees living in Mexico decided to return to their country in 1993, they asked the

international community to provide Human Rights Accompaniers to live with them in communities. If the Army or Guerrillas threatened or committed any violence against the community, the Accompanier would report it to influential

Currently, there are Accompaniers in thirteen villages, and NCOORD will continue to

place them until the communities say they are no longer needed. Doña Matea, an elder in Santa Elena, expressed her fears, "Cuando no hay acompañante con nosotros, tenemos miedo. Nos sentimos solitos. La zona military 22 queda cerca, y ellos pueden hacer lo que quieren." ("When there's no accompanier here, we're afraid. We feel alone. The 22nd Military Zone is close by, and they can do whatever they want.")

Lepp plans to go back this January. What she finds may not

Elena is located in is one of areas hardest hit by Hurricane Mitch. The need will no doubt be great. But Lepp will be there: "I've learned that the greatest gift we can give is our presence," she noted. She stressed that money and material contributions are important too, but it is a person's physical presence in times of need that can be most valuable.

"Guatemala is a complex nation, and the story of Santa Elena is one of the threads that weave its rich fabric. It's important that we learn about the struggles others face and how our lives are interconnected," she concluded. Lepp is available for slide show presentations; you can reach her at 647-6652. ■

TO SUPPORT THE ACCOMPANIER PROGRAM:

National Coordinating Office on Refugees and Displaced (NCOORD), 1830 Connecticut Avenue NW, Washington DC 20009. Tel: 202-265-8713. Make checks payable to "NCOORD."

TO SUPPORT HURRICANE RELIEF EFFORTS: American Friends Service Committee (AFSC), 1501 Cherry Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102. Make checks payable to "Hurricane Relief Fund, American Friends Service Committee." To donate funds to a specific country, write the

Guatemala Partners, 1830 Connecticut Avenue SW, Washington DC 20009. Make checks payable to "Guatemala Partners/Honduras Relief." Money from this appeal will go directly to six grassroots Honduran organizations doing relief work.

country's name in the memo line.



Erica Lepp with Maria Garcia and her daughter Diana in Santa Elena, Guatemala.

(NCOORD). She lived in a remote rural community of indigenous Kekchi, one of 22 Mayan ethnic groups in Guatemala.

"My job was twofold," she said. "To provide a measure of security against human rights violations, and to publicize the reality of Guatemala to people in the United States. My presence

be so pleasant — the state Santa

Local volunteer opportunities

Children's Home Society seeks volunteers

Children's Home Society, located at 2230 Como Ave., needs 500 community volunteers to make their winter campaign a success. Individuals can volunteer to accept phone-in donations and answer general question about Children's Home Society weekday evenings at WCCO's downtown Minneapolis studio. Volunteers are also needed to join the Children's Home Society staff, WCCO talent and Mall of America shoppers to help kick off the "Gift for Children" campaign. Other opportunities are available as well. Call 646-6393 to help now.

Neighbor to Neighbor

Last year, Neighbor to Neighbor and their volunteers served more than 1,500 local families with food and toys. They serve low

income families living in Falcon Heights, Lauderdale, Roseville, and other local communities. Donations of food, toys or funding are welcome at Neighbor to Neighbor's office at 1021 Marion Street in St. Paul. They also need volunteers to help organize the program and assist with fundraising, and more volunteers will be needed in December for the distribution. If you are interested in volunteer opportunities, contact Margaret Yach at 488-0507, ext. 129.

Coaches needed

St. Paul Parks and Recreation needs volunteers for its youth basketball programs. Coaches are responsible for teaching youth, ages 10 to teens, basic basketball skills. Sportsmanship and teamwork are to be emphasized. For more information, call 266-6400.

Meals on Wheels

St. Anthony Park needs people who could give an hour or two of time to deliver Meals on Wheels to neighborhood residents. They have openings on the first Wednesday and first Friday of each month. There is also a need for volunteers who could give rides, grocery shop, or do small errands and tasks for older residents. If you're interested in helping, call Judy Probst at

Citizens Band Radio

Ramsey County REACT (Radio Emergency Associated Communications Team) needs volunteers to monitor emergency channel 9 on Citizen's Band radio where they live. This service provides communications for community events and local disasters. For more information, call 646-0259.

HORIZON HOME IMPROVEMENT

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Holiday Festivities to Support Our Community Gardens

Savor a special holiday dinner featuring Warren and Kikki Gore's famous greek chicken, salad, rice pilaf and Spanakopita, a Greek spinach pie.

 ${f B}$ id on fun and unique items donated by St. Anthony Park merchants and residents at a silent auction to be held throughout the evening.

Enjoy great holiday music as some of the many talented St. Anthony Park musicians play your holiday favorites. Performers include Adam Granger, a regular on Garrison Keillor's Prairie Home Companion radio show.



DATE Tuesday, December 8 TIME 5:45 Social Hour 6:15 Dinner 7 p.m. Program

PLACE St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church (Como and Hillside)

COST Dinner and Program \$10 Adults \$3 Children 5-12 Children under 5 are free

Dinner and childcare by reservation only. Call Fabiola Lee at 659-0558 by December 5, to make or cancel reservations.

All proceeds from the evening will support the Community Gardens project. Sponsored by the St. Anthony Park association and the St. Anthony Park Community Council

St. Anthony Park Association

Dinner reservation: Fabiola Lee 659-0558 Information: Mary Ann Bernard 646-2929



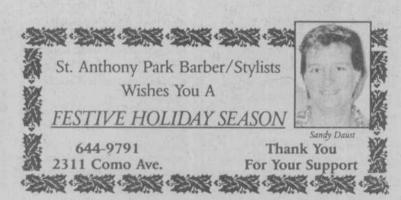
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During the busy activities of the day we seldom find the time to acknowledge the courtesies or show appreciation for the trust of those whom we have the pleasure to serve.

Reflecting on the holiday season that is once again upon us, we would like to take this opportunity to pause and say to you in all sincerity

"Thank you for your trust and for allowing us to care for your dental needs this past year."

We and our entire staff wish you the warmest Seasons Greetings

> Sincerely, Dr. Todd Grossmann and Staff Dr. Paul Kirkegaard and Staff



ARTS EVENTS

READINGS

Micawber's hosts local author

Sarah Susanka, a former St.
Anthony Park resident, will read from her new book *The Not So Big House: A Blueprint For the Way We Really Live* on December 5 from 1 to 3 p.m. at Micawber's Bookstore. This acclaimed book discusses smaller houses designed to accommodate the lifestyles of its occupants. Micawber's Bookstore is located at 2238 Carter Ave. in Milton Square.

Underground Christmas

On December 18 from 1 to 2:30 p.m., Jon Hassler will read from his new book from Afton Historical Society Press entitled *Underground Christmas*, the story of a man who comes to terms with change on a Christmas day spent with his son. The reading will take place at Micawber's Bookstore.

Hoagland reads at Prairie Star

On December 4, Tony Hoagland will read from his new poetry book *Donkey Gospel*, which was the recipient of the 1997 James

Laughlin Award of the Academy of American Poets. The reading will take place at 7 p.m.

Readings at Black Bear

Tessie Bundick, illustrator of the recently published book Jane Gibbs, Little Bird That Was Caught, will read from this work at Black Bear Crossings Coffee House and Community Center on December 17 at 7 p.m. Native American poet Mary Parkhurst will read her own works, and Native American singer and composer Gen Huitt will read poetry by other native Americans. Black Bear Crossings is located at 831 Como Ave.

DANCE

Young Dance at St. Paul Student Center

Young Dance presents "January Thaw" on January 14 at 9:45 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. and January 16 at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at the St. Paul Student Center Theatre, 2017 Buford Ave. All seats must be reserved in advance by calling 612-827-0650. Young Dance is a unique modern dance company of young people from eight to 18

years of age and is directed by Sam Costa, a St. Anthony Park resident.

Ballet Minnesota presents Nutcracker

Ballet Minnesota will present its 11th annual Nutcracker production at the O'Shaughnessy Auditorium. Public performances are December 18 and 19 at 8 p.m. and December 19 and 20 at 3 p.m. Tickets are available at O'Shaughnessy or through Ticketmaster.

MUSIC

Central High hosts concert

The University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Jazz Ensemble will perform at St. Paul Central High School (275 Lexington Parkway) on November 30 at 7:30 p.m. The high school jazz ensemble will open the concert. For more information, call 939-4050.

BOOK FAIR

SAP Elementary's Bookfair

December 3 is the date set aside for St. Anthony Park Elementary's fourth annual bookfair held at Micawber's Bookstore. A percentage of the day's sales will be donated to SAPSA, and coffee and cookies will be served.

EXHIBITS

Paper Bazaar at Raymond Avenue Gallery

"Paper Bazaar: An Exhibition of Small Work" is now showing at the Raymond Avenue Gallery, 761 Raymond Ave. Four Minnesota artists will present small-scale artwork made of or on paper. The gallery is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Como Conservatory displays work by Mark Granlund

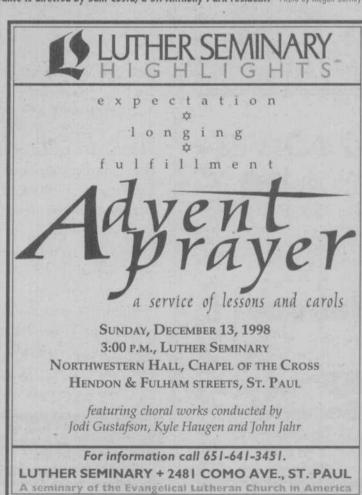
The Como Park Conservatory will display the artwork of Mark Granlund from December 4 through January 31. The work will consist of charcoal drawings of orchids from the Conservatory's collection. Granlund has been a resident artist at the Conservatory for four years, where he manages arts and environmental programs for youth and adults.

Minnesota churches: A photography exhibit

Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota is featuring the photographs of Dough Ohman at its agency headquarters, 2485 Como Ave. Since 1993, Ohman has been traveling the back roads of Minnesota photographing rural churches for this exhibit entitled "Minnesota Churches: Just Down the Road." For more information, call 651-969-2286.



Young Dance presents "January Thaw" at the St. Paul Student Center. Young Dance is directed by Sam Costa, a St. Anthony Park resident. Photo by Megan Bartley



Micawber's new book club off to a splendid start

by Barbara Claussen

ove of literature and intellectual discourse attract people from all over the Twin Cities to Micawber's new book club.

"Book clubs are so overwhelmingly popular," said Mary Weitzman, the bookstore's liaison person. "They're a real thing of the 90s. Half the people I know are in a book club."

Micawber's Bookstore was getting a lot of calls, asking if they had a club. After publishing an inquiry in their newsletter, they received an overwhelming response.

"We had our first meeting in October," reported Weitzman.
"People drove from all over — Champlin, Wayzata, Brooklyn Center, Fridley, Shoreview, St. Paul and Minneapolis. Some of them heard about it by word-of-mouth."

The club meets the first Wednesday of every month. An afternoon session meets at 2 p.m. at Taste of Scandinavia, just three doors down from the bookstore, and an evening session meets at Micawber's at 7 p.m.

"It's very informal," said Weitzman. "My feeling for a book club is that it should be fun and interesting. You should go away learning something. The club should stretch us towards books that we would not normally gravitate towards."

She admitted that on her own she consistently reads the same flavor of books, and several other participants felt the same. They also wanted to be stretched.

There were mixed reviews about the first book. Some liked it and some didn't. Weitzman admitted that she probably wouldn't have finished it if she wasn't committed to reading it for the book club.

Members like to read a variety of literature including fiction, non-fiction, memoirs, biography, historical fiction and history. For the first meeting Weitzman compiled a list of diverse titles. Micawber's chose *The Aguero Sisters*, a book by Cuban author Cristina Garcia for their first selection.

A volunteer coordinator presents a sketch about the author and keeps the discussion on track. "We want it to be casual, but have some direction," said Weitzman.

She describes the group as social, but stimulating. "It has intellectual merit. People take something away."

The club itself is diverse: stay- at-home-moms, professionals, retired people. Their love for books and reading draws them together. Annie Klessig, Micawber's manager and book club participant, had a great time at the first discussion. "It's so fun to talk about books with people you don't know. It was really focused on the book. With friends you get off the subject."

"It was a lively discussion with some very astute observations," Klessig continued. "We discovered so much about

the book.
Other people had such insights. You received more than if you had read the book on your

Lyssa Cummings, a professional rosemaler, got involved because she likes the bookstore itself. "It has such a friendly atmosphere. They really have good ideas if you describe what you are interested in reading."

She liked the idea of a book club. "I love to read. It's surprising the number of people who do love to read. I'd gotten the impression we were a dying breed. I was mistaken."

She continued, "I just hated the first book, but I read it through because I was committed. I was interested in finding out what other people thought. It was good to talk about it."

Beverly Hanson, a retired librarian, likes independent bookstores and belongs to several other book clubs. "When you get with a different combination of people, you come up with an

interesting discussion," she observed.

She admits to prejudices about certain books. "I've never been a best-

seller person. I look for books not in the popular mainstream. I like to try ethnic books and books by women."

Kathy Wackman describes the book club as "going to class rather than teaching yourself." She likes the option of attending one of the two sessions.

"In this group the book

comes first. Participants are not connected in other ways."

She calls the group a wonderful combination of people who are very well read. She wasn't fond of the Garcia book and admitted that it wouldn't be a book that she would pick. But following the first discussion, she had a fresh understanding of the book. "It really made me understand it on a different level," she said

A Prayer for Owen Meany by John Irving was chosen for discussion in December because of its spiritual overtones. Book club members receive a 10% discount at Micawber's on book club selections.

The bookstore is located at 2238 Carter Ave. in St. Anthony Park. For more information about the book club, call Mary Weitzman at 646-5506.

Letters . . . from page 4

should the State of Minnesota confer its legitimacy on this highly questionable practice?

Tim Walker

Our Congressional delegation deserves praise

On behalf of Minnesota's hospitals, I would like to publicly recognize the leadership of our congressional delegation for their efforts to maintain the state's share of federal funding used to care for lowincome and disabled Minnesotans. Thanks to their hard work, legislation was approved in the Omnibus Appropriations Act of 1998 to correct a reporting error that threatened to reduce the amount the state receives in 1999. With this funding we can continue to provide care to Minnesotans who are most in need.

Stephen Rogness





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Mergenthal. She often chose elderly or those who had recently suffered a children's visits. Of course the distar of the neighborhood necessitated fer children would have liked (except or splitting into north and south St. As allowed more stops and even trips to

One of Mergenthal's favorite m to sing for an older woman at Lyng

"I wanted kids to have the ext through the snow and to see I their singing."

think of Christmas caroling? Maybe it's the moonlight glinting on the newly fallen snow, happy

faces of your neighbors at their window,
a cup of cider or mulled wine when you
return home to a blazing fire. Or perhaps
you especially appreciate the sound of
little children singing (not always in tune)
at your door. Or maybe it's just the opening
phrase of a familiar carol on the radio that
starts the Christmas season for you.

Whatever images come to mind when you think of caroling, the best memories of singing at Christmas often have to do with

the happiness brought by the sounds of the season. This certainly was the impetus for Mary Mergenthal, director of the Joy Singers Choir at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church.

Mergenthal began taking children around the neighborhood in the mid-70s, when her daughter Rebecca was old enough to sing in the choir. The group met immediately after school and split into smaller groups of five to ten singers. Parent volunteers and others involved with the choir took the children to home of congregation members and others chosen earlier by Mergenthal, where they sang and sometimes are treats provided by the grateful listeners. Afterward they met back at the church for a pizza party.

"I wanted kids to have the experience of walking together through the snow and to see how happy they made people with their singing," says hear nor see. Despite her handicaps every day, so Mergenthal decided the children's singing. After preparing to serenading, they walked into the ro-"It was awe-inspiring

Kathy Welling



drinking at their home.

That tradition has continued and gr 40 or more friends, neighbors and co that year gather for some good harm

Jana Martin and David Fredrick eight or nine years. They invite frien colleagues to their home for caroling 50 people in their party. Fredrickson are to their singing, often coming ou



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PIECE

We Come a Wassailing Christmas caroling: a neighborhood tradition

elle Christianson

shioners who didn't get out much in their families to receive the etween homes and the hilly terrain nd shorter visits than many of the se really cold afternoons!), but ny groups and using carpools gblomsten.

ries involves bringing the children sten who supposedly could neither

nce of walking together happy they made people with

- MARY MERGENTHAL

husband came to read to her e could possibly appreciate the ildren for who they were nd sang the best they had all day. l of us," remembers Mergenthal. so has fond memories of caroling in her hometown as she



growing up. After spending a year in sunny California (1983-84),Wellingtons were ready for more cold-weather traditions. They organized a few friends and neighbors for an evening of caroling, followed by = eating and

so that now anywhere from 20 to gues of whoever is hosting the party and potluck appetizers and desserts. also have hosted a caroling party for elatives, neighbors and work have sometimes had up to he can't believe how open people in the coldest weather to hear them.

* * *

The tradition of caroling could be said to have begun the first Christmas night with the angels singing. There are records of the bishop of Rome ordering people to sing carols as early as 129 A.D. St. Francis of Assisi is usually credited as being the "Father of the Christmas" Carol" as he led his followers in song of praises at his nativity scene in 1224. Later carols were set to folk melodies and sometimes had a completely secular theme, as in "Here We Come a Wassailing" (which tells of the custom of going door-to-door with glass in hand asking for some of the mulled wine kept simmering over the fire at Christmas time) and "We Wish You a Merry Christmas." That is why caroling came to be done outdoors instead of in churches - it was less "holy" music.

But "holy" may just be a relative term. Certainly Mergenthal and her charges felt that awe caroling for the deaf and blind woman. I also had an experience caroling that has always stayed with me. Some of our friends used to meet and



carol at the St. Anthony Park Home (Commonwealth Nursing Home at the time). One year they just had too many visitors so we had to find another place to go at the last minute. The only place that hadn't had too many carolers was the floor at Lyngblomsten that housed those with Alzheimer's disease and dementia. Most of us were really young and hadn't had much experience with the type of people to whom we were going to sing. But for most of us the reality was transforming. We saw faces brighten at melodies from their youths. Restless bodies calmed at the touch of a gentle hand on their shoulders. In a way it was the best experience we had ever had caroling.

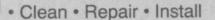
The joy of caroling may just be the nostalgia and sentimental feelings it evokes. But it is also about making others forget their cares and relax for

The tradition of caroling could be said to have begun the first Christmas night with the angels singing. There are records of the bishop of Rome ordering people to sing carols as early as 129 A.D. St. Francis of Assisi is usually credited as being the "Father of the Christmas Carol" as he led his followers in sona of praises at his nativity scene in 1224.

a few moments because you took the time to come to their home and sing to them. What an inexpensive yet significant gift to give anyone!

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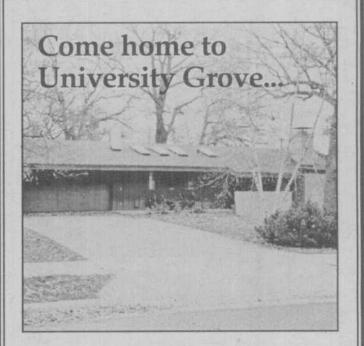
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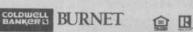
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We would also like to invite the community, family and friends to our Annual Holiday Tea on Saturday, December 5th, from 2:00-4:00 p.m. We will have special entertainment and many tasty treats

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KID-BITS

Holiday crafts at **Family Fun Nights**

Community Education is offering two special classes for those interested in creative preparations for the holidays:

St. Anthony Park Family Fun Nights is the name of a special series of Friday evening classes for families to take together. The next offering is planned for Friday, December 4. The people who run the St. Paul shop ArtScraps will come to St. Anthony Park and guide families through the process of creating holiday decorations from scraps and bits that are usually found around the house.

On December 11, there will be a printmaking class for families using both traditional and nontraditional techniques to make cards and gift wrap. Classes run from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. and the cost is \$10 per family. For more information or to sign up, call Community Education at 293-8738.

Instructional Basketball

Instructional basketball registration at the Langford and South St. Anthony Rec Centers will end on December 11. This program is for boys and girls ages eight and under. Call 298-5765 for more information.

Talent Show

Langford and South St. Anthony

Rec Centers' winter holiday talent show will take place in January. This is open to all area adults and children. Call 298-5765 if you'd like to sign up.

Leroy Herdman (Charlie Bevis) taunts Charlie Bradley (Matthew Naber) in SteppingStone Theatre's "The **Best Christmas**

Local youth to perform in "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever"

SteppingStone Theatre for Youth Development brings back a holiday tradition with "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever." Charlie Bevis, 12, plays Leroy Herdman; Lily Bevis, 14, is the assistant stage manager; and PaviElle French, 14, plays Maxine. All three attend Murray Junior High. Derek Anklan, 12, who attends school in Falcon Heights, plays Elmer Hopkins.

"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" previews on December 4 and opens December 5 and runs through December 23. All performances take place in the F.K. Weyerhaeuser Auditorium in the Landmark Center in St. Paul. For tickets and information, call 651-225-9265.

Talking to Santa

Santa Claus will take a break from his North Pole duties to appear live on CTV Channel 15 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on December 9. Youngsters can watch Santa on television while they talk to him live on the telephone. Parents, set your VCR to record. Santa can be reached by calling the studio at 481-9554 only on December 9 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. There is no charge for the call. CTV Channel 15 is public access community television in the cities of Falcon Heights, Lauderdale, Roseville and St. Anthony.



Pageant Ever." Photo by Gus Gustafson



May the joy of this holiday season fill your heart and home all through the year.



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INFORMATION MEETING:

Saturday, December 5, 10-11 a.m. Minneapolis Campus 730 Hennepin Avenue, Rm. 306 St. Paul (651) 772-7600 Minneapolis (612) 341-7250 http://www.metro.msus.edu email: admit2@msus1.msus.edu

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The Befrienders Program — friends indeed for mothers in need

by Judy Woodward

hey are two women, enjoying hot chocolate on a cold fall evening at a neighborhood cafe. Clearly, they're closely connected to each other and to the towheaded little boy seated between them. Between sips of hot chocolate, he's drawing careful pictures, which he holds up for their inspection and unfailing approval.

An onlooker might wonder at their relationship. Are they sisters? Their obvious intimacy hints at it, and their blonde hair and similar neat features suggest a family tie.

Susan Paisley is in her late thirties;*Jessica Williams is in her late teens. They are not relatives, but they share almost everything else in common. They are both single mothers with steady, practical outlooks on life; they share a common enthusiasm for expeditions to restaurants and movies; they're joined in admiration for each other's honesty and courage in dealing with the obstacles that life has from time-to-time put in their paths. And, oh yes, they're both crazy about little Ignatius, the nearly-three-year-old son whom Jessica bore when she was a high school dropout of fifteen.

Paisley and Williams might never have met except for the Befrienders Program, a mentorship opportunity developed by Children's Home Society. Soon to celebrate its 10th year, the Befrienders Volunteers Program matches young single mothers in one-to-one relationships with community volunteers who agree to help the new moms navigate



Susan Paisley, Jessica Williams and little Ignatius have become close friends as a result of the Befrienders Program. Photo by Judy Woodward

the sometimes stormy seas of parenthood. The Befriender offers emotional support and regular contact of a mature adult to a young woman who has often been thrust with little preparation into one of the most stressful and vulnerable experiences of her life.

Dealing with the consequences of unplanned parenthood is never easy for anyone; and the Children's Home Society carefully screens potential Befriender volunteers to make sure the women have the right mixture of empathy, maturity and commitment to the program. Befrienders are required to undergo about 18 hours of training and orientation before they begin the program. Then they must agree to devote at least two hours a week for a year to the young mother with whom they're paired.

A Befriender can function as an early warning device, to help a stressed-out young mother realize that she needs to take constructive steps to resolve a child-care problem before it reaches crisis level. The Befrienders program works closely with the Crisis Nursery, another Children's Home Society program, which offers immediate respite childcare for parents who find themselves at the breaking point.

Mostly, though, the task of the Befriender is more mundane. She acts as a friend, a receptive ear, and a source of maternal wisdom for young women who are

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distanced from their own extended families and have no other guides through the maze of motherhood in which they find themselves.

Paisley, a north St. Anthony
Park resident, volunteered for the
program after having "been a
single mother most of my life."
When her son, now 14, began to
grow up, she found she missed
having a toddler in her life.
"People supported me a lot when
my son was younger," she said,
"and I thought this would be an
important thing I could do to give
something back."

Paisley thinks that empathetic listening is the most important thing she does as a Befriender. She calls it "listening with your heart." She says, "You validate the young mother's experiences when you listen."

Williams adds, "I think what makes a good Befriender is being flexible and open. The volunteer should come in without expectations and be prepared for anything."

In the case of Paisley and Williams, that "anything" has meant deep, abiding friendship. Although they are not officially linked by the program any longer and although Paisley has agreed to befriend another young mother, the ties between the two women are strong and are likely to endure.

Williams says, "Sue is one of my only friends. Thanks to her I learned that I can really make friends." Paisley responds, "Jessica is extremely intelligent. She always has an interesting take on things. I made a good friend in her. She's an extraordinary young woman."

Thanks to Paisley's support and her own ability and resilience, Williams will receive her high school diploma in the spring. She's already taking college courses at a local community college and has considered pursuing an accounting degree in the future. Her long term career goal, though, which she describes as "a calling," is more unusual. "I want to be a medical examiner," she explains levelly. And then, in case the questioner has not completely understood her response, she adds, "The kind of doctor who does autopsies. After all, I'm not really a people person."

It's a self-description that an observer, seeing her deep in animated conversation with her good friend Susan and carefully attentive to her sunny-tempered little Ignatius, might well dispute.

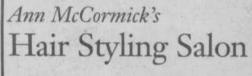
The next training session for the Befrienders Volunteer Program will be offered in the spring of 1999. For more information, contact Judie Russell of the Children's Home Society at 646-4414.

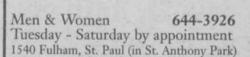


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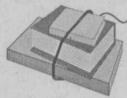
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MICAWBER'S CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thursday, December 3 – Micawber's is hosting the 4th annual St. Anthony Park



annual St. Anthony Park
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book buying, as a percentage of
the day's sales will be donated to
SAPSA.

Friday, December 4, 7 PM at the Prairie Star Coffee



Shop, 2399 University Avenue in St. Paul, Tony Hoagland will be reading from his new book Donkey Gospel, the 1997 recipient of the James Laughlin Award of the Academy of American Poets. Hoagland currently teaches at New Mexico State University in Las Cruses. Co-sponsored by Graywolf Press.

Saturday, December 5, 1-3 PM, Micawber's is pleased



to be hosting Sarah Susanka, author of *THE NOT SO BIG*HOUSE: A Blueprint for the Way We Really Live. A book about smaller houses designed to accommodate the lifestyles of its occupants, Susanka examines living spaces with a fresh perspective. Susanka is a principal with

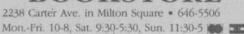
the architecture firm Mulfinger, Susanka, Mahady & Partners, and lives in the Twin Cities.

Friday, December 18, 1-2:30 PM, Micawber's is



pleased to be hosting Jon Hassler as he reads from his new book, *Underground Christmas*. The third in Afton Historical Society Press' series of annual Christmas books, *Underground Christmas* is the story of Jay who, nearing fifty, has come late to a midlife crisis, and how he comes to terms with change on a Christmas Day spent with his son.

MICAWBER'S BOOKSTORE





NEIGHBORS

U of M presents gardening calendar

Minnesota Gardening 1999, the only gardening calendar prepared exclusively for Minnesota gardeners, features several scenes from St. Anthony Park, the St. Paul campus of the University of Minnesota, and Falcon Heights. Local photographer Dave Hansen of St. Anthony Park contributed to the calendar. The calendar is available by calling the University of Minnesota Extension Service at 612-624-4900; the cost is \$8.95 plus tax and shipping.



Garden Club

The St. Anthony Park Garden Club has changed its meeting place. Due to the construction at the St. Anthony Park Library, the Garden Club will now meet at Luther Seminary in the Olson Campus Center, Seminar Room 1 on Tuesday, December 1, at 6:45 p.m. Mike Zins will discuss woody plants, and refreshments will be served afterward. New members are always welcome. For more information, call 645-7017.

Graduation standards

The St. Paul Public Schools are offering several opportunities for parents and community members to learn about the state's new graduation standards. The next meeting will be held on December 10 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Como Park Senior High, 740 W. Rose Ave. Sessions

will be held on other dates as well — call 651-293-5162 for more information.

Alzheimers study

Regions Hospital is hosting a study of a new investigational treatment for persons with mild to moderate forms of Alzheimers. All study participants will receive free, regular medical evaluations. Call 1-877-STUDY-33 to find out more.

The Linconshire Experience

A one-day festival showcasing England's most rural country will be held on December 5 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Milton Square in St. Anthony Park. There will be a photography exhibit, antiques and cottage gifts, slide shows, lectures, teas and scones and a sweets shop. Admission is \$2 per adult and \$1 per child or \$5 per family. Gall 645-1112 (day) or 645-5209 (eves) for more information.

IN BRIEF

Farewell and a hearty thanks to Midway Clean Team

As we bid farewell to a wonderful summer and fall, it is now time to bid farewell to a great new Midway tradition - the Midway Clean Team, which for the past six months has spent part of each week picking up trash along University Avenue. The Midway Clean Team is made up of young adults and teens with developmental disabilities who participate in programs of Transition to Independence or Midway Training Services. The Clean Team was created through a partnership of those two programs and the Midway Chamber of Commerce. Major funding for this program was provided by Dakota Bank. Additional funding was provided by Cub Foods and

Liberty State Bank.

Businesses and residents alike have welcomed the work of the Clean Team, which has worked hundreds of hours picking up trash, sweeping sidewalks, and generally helping make the Midway a little cleaner place to visit, live or work.

- Ellen Watters

Como Park's Carousel

Como Park is where the Cafesjian's Carousel horses will be stabled next year. St. Paul Parks and Recreation staff are now working with the carousel volunteers on a pavilion to house the 68-horse attraction.

The carousel pavilion will be located at a site between the Como Conservatory and the large parking lot. The move of the carousel to Como Park will bring it near its old home at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds. Many area residents who visit the fair regularly no doubt remember seeing or even riding on the carousel during its years as a State Fair attraction. If all goes as planned, carousel and city officials say they'd like to get the ride up and running by August 1, not long before the 1999 fair starts. Riders will be able to take a spin from Memorial Day through Labor Day, plus weekends only from April 15 to October 31. The ride would be closed Mondays. Each ride will cost \$1.50.

The new carousel pavilion has an estimated cost of \$900,000. Carousel benefactor and namesake Gerald Cafesjian, the city and Ramsey County will share in the costs of the new pavilion.

The decision to locate the carousel at Como Park ends many months of uncertainty about the popular attraction's fate. The carousel operated at the Minnesota State Fair from 1914 to 1989. When its previous owner threatened to close the ride down and sell the carousel in pieces, Our Fair Carousel formed to save the

Rebekah Todd serves as new St. Anthony Park Business Association director

by Arlene West

Rebekah (Gaiser) Todd, new executive director of the St. Anthony Park Business Association (SAPBA), is uniquely acquainted with the business area along Como Avenue in St. Anthony Park. As a child living on Branston Avenue near Luther Seminary, rarely a day went by that she didn't go "downtown."

Of course a lot has changed around the neighborhood in the past decade, and Todd herself brings a new perspective gained through studies at the University of St. Thomas (in English and Art History) and through work in marketing with Dayton Hudson for six years and at a research firm for another year and a half.

Todd looks forward to more "people contact" as director of the Business Association. With nearly 100 members, the



organization has tremendous potential for networking and collaboration. She says she's looking forward to finding out what business owners think will make the association a more valuable tool for them. "There is so much opportunity for growth in this area," she said. "One of my goals is to help small business owners see tangible results, ways that we can enhance our community that go beyond our support of STAR grants."

Todd can be reached at the SAPBA office in the ParkBank building at 645-2366. ■



Barb Metzger and Joe Borman stand in front of Como neighborhood's most popular new sign. Borman built the sign in his basement last summer for the first annual Como Days held this past August. Because the sign was too tall to be housed at the District 10 offices, the sign has been placed on the boulevard. "People like the sign so much," says Metzger, "that we can't take it down!" Metzger is the Community Organizer for District 10; Borman organized the Como Days celebration and is a lawyer and resident in the Como neighborhood. Photo by Iruman Olson

carousel and keep it intact. In their bid to bring the carousel to Como, Mayor Norm Coleman's staff and St. Paul Parks and Recreation staff touted the park's popularity as a draw for many potential carousel riders. Como Park is the region's most-visited park, with 2.38 million visitors in 1996.

— Jane McClure

Gala Greek holiday dinner to benefit Community Gardens

Who can turn down an opportunity to meet friends and neighbors, feast on sumptuous Greek cooking, while being serenaded by musicians — and at the same time, make a great contribution to our community? This wonderful occasion is the St. Anthony Park Association Christmas Dinner, scheduled for December 8 at the St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church parish hall. Proceeds will help fund the new Railroad Park and Community Gardens.

Music and entertainment will be provided by neighborhood musicians including Adam Granger, who is frequently heard on Prairie Home Companion. Delicious home-made Christmas cookies, baked by Heather Worthington, will be for sale (she's looking for volunteers to help - call 649-5992 if you're interested). A silent auction of goods and services will give everyone an opportunity to experience something wonderful and make a contribution to the park. Forms for donating silent auction items can be obtained at the Bibelot, the library, Micawber's Bookstore, and Hampden Park Co-op.

One of the main attractions of this festive gathering is the delicious food, cooked by chefs Kiki and Warren Gore and crew. Kiki and Warren's SAPA dinners were famous in the 1970s, when their Greek dinners became a tradition which everyone looked forward to. Kiki and Warren hope to gather as many members of their old "crew" together once again, to make this a truly memorable occasion.

Wonderful Greek cooking just comes naturally to Kiki, who hails from a traditional Greek household in Evanston, Illinois. Her immigrant parents brought up their two daughters in a family where the dinner table was the center of activity. "My mom was the best cook in the world," Kiki exclaimed. "We always had people over, especially on Sunday. It's easy to love Greek food when you grow up with it!"

But wait! Who's the Greek here? Warren l-o-v-e-s to cook! He absolutely loves the idea of using fresh herbs and garlic — while cooking on their bright red enameled gas range (circa 1940), the oven lined with fire brick.

"Food doesn't have to be beige," remarks Kiki. "Delicious cheeses, olives, oil and greens were always a part of every meal. I believe it was the Ancient Greeks who formulated The Golden Mean: moderation in all things. In food . . . and even politics!"

The price for the dinner is \$10 for adults and \$3 for children. Reservations are essential and must be made by December 5 (call 646-2929).

GREEK HOLIDAY DINNER MENU

Roasted Greek Chicken (lemon, garlic and oregano) Rice Pilaf with herbs Spanakopita (spinach pie) Greek Salad Greek Desert

The St. Anthony Park
Association will donate the proceeds for the dinner towards the purchase of land and development of the new Railroad Park and Community Gardens located in south St. Anthony Park. The 4.5 acre parcel of land is up for sale by its owner, Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad. The community has submitted one offer to buy the property, which the railroad has rejected as too low. Another offer is in the works.

The park plans include a sheltered area for train watching and information about the railroad's part in the historical development of the area, plantings of native grasses and wildflowers, and a continuance of the community gardens.

— Abby Marier



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PEOPLE



From left to right: Hamline University President Larry G. Osnes; Jerry Greiner, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the College of Liberal Arts; Richard E. Tressel; Fred Schmiesing, chair, Athletic Hall of Fame and 1964 Hamline graduate; and Colleen Evans, President, Piper Athletic Association and 1982 Hamline graduate.

Richard Tressel, head football coach at Hamline since 1978, has been elected to the Hamline University Athletic Hall of Fame. Tressel was inducted during a ceremony at Hamline last month. In addition to his coaching duties, Tressel is also the men's athletic director and a professor of Physical Education.

Tressel has been Hamline's head football coach since joining the faculty in 1978 and holds a 119-82-2 career record. He was chosen as the Conference Coach of the Year twice, in 1984 and 1988, and Football News named him the Division III National Football Coach of the Year.

Marjorie Jamieson, the founder and director of the Block Nurse Program, received the Creative Nursing Award during the 1998 annual meeting of the Minnesota Nurses Association. Jamieson, a former missionary to New Guinea and a registered nurse, received the award based on her innovation and originality in the development of the Block Nurse Program - a neighborhoodcentered health care management model. The program, which began in St. Anthony Park, now has 25 programs in Minnesota and other states.

Lauderdale resident Michelle Lyles, 14, and St. Anthony Park resident Eryn Bridges, 16, danced the lead roles in "The Golden Bough." This new ballet included a cast of over a hundred performers ranging in age from six to 40 years. While participants came from the entire Twin Cities area, the cast included two other community members - Rachel Lyle of Lauderdale and Anna Bishop of St. Anthony Park.

Lauderdale resident Michelle Lyles and St. Anthony Park resident Eryn Bridges perform in "The Golden Bough."

The St. Anthony Park School of Dance was located in this neighborhood for 15 years, starting in the United Church of Christ, moving to the Luther Seminary gym, and then the Park Crossing mall by Raymond. In 1996, the school relocated to the Andyhazy studio on Grand Avenue and changed its name to the St. Anthony Performing Arts Guild.

Clare Zielinski, 13, and Peter Lurson, 11, have both won a competition sponsored by the Falcon Heights/Lauderdale Lions Club. Of all the posters received, their entries best portrayed the theme "Planting the Seeds of Peace." Their posters are among the 300,000 entries submitted worldwide in the 11th annual Lions International Peace Poster Contest.

Former St. Anthony Park Community Council co-chair Carole Mannheim was recently appointed by Mayor Coleman to serve as a commissioner on the Police Civilian Internal Affairs Review Board. Dr. Mannheim's three-year term will commence in December, following completion of training with the St. Paul Police Department. Mannheim participated in the Citizen's Police Academy in 1996, and has served as a forensic consultant to the Hennepin County District Court over the past six years.

People to page 20



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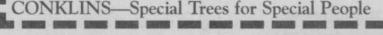
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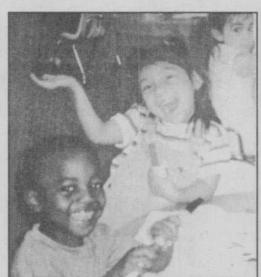
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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

1 TUESDAY

- Toastmasters, Hewlett Packard, 2025 Larpenteur Ave., 7:30 a.m. 645-6675. Every Tuesday.
- Tot Time (for 5-year olds and younger), Langford Park Rec Center, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Every Tuesday. Call 298-5765 for details.
- St. Anthony Park Writer's Group, 1486 Raymond Avenue, 7:30 p.m. 645-1345. Newcomers welcome.
- St. Anthony Park Garden Club, Luther Seminary, Olson Campus Center, Seminar Room 1. 6:45 p.m. New members welcome.

2 WEDNESDAY

Leisure Center for Seniors, St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Lunch reservations by Monday. 379-8928. Every Wednesday.

3 THURSDAY

- Tot Time (for 5-year olds and younger), South St. Anthony Rec Center, 10 a.m.—noon. Every Thursday. Call 298-5765 for details.
- St. Anthony Park Community Council Physical Planning Committee, South St. Anthony Rec Center, 890 Cromwell, 5 p.m.
- St. Anthony Park Elementary's fourth annual bookfair, Micawber's Bookstore. A percentage of the day's sales will benefit SAPSA.

4 FRIDAY

- Falcon Heights and Lauderdale recycling.
- Tony Hoagland reads at Prairie Star Coffeehouse, 2399 University Ave. 7 p.m.

7 MONDAY

- AA, St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, 8 p.m. 770-2646. Every Monday.
- Boy Scouts, St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ, 7 p.m. Every Monday.

8 TUESDAY

- Lauderdale City Council, City Hall, 1891 Walnut Street, 7:30 p.m.
- Holiday meal and tunes from neighborhood musicians to benefit the Community Gardens, St. Anthony Park Association, St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church, 5:45 p.m., social hour; 6:15 p.m. dinner, 7 p.m. program.
- Holly House Director Dr. Patricia Lawler will share ways to help you with your digestion and elimination, naturally. Free workshop, 6 p.m. Call 651-645-6951.

■ Como-Midway La Leche Group meeting, 7 p.m. Call 644-0302 for meeting location and more information.

9 WEDNESDAY

- I St. Anthony Park recycling.
- Full Council Meeting, St. Anthony Park Community Council, South St. Anthony Rec Center, 890 Cromwell, 7 p.m.
- Falcon Heights City Council, City Hall, 2077 W. Larpenteur, 7 p.m.
- Talk with Santa from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on CTV Channel 15. Youngsters can watch Santa on television while they talk to him live on the telephone. Call 481-9554.

14 MONDAY

- # Hanukkah.
- Como Park recycling.

- Park Press Inc., Park Bugle board meeting, ParkBank community room, 7 a.m.
- Falconeers Senior Club, Falcon Heights, City Hall, 2077 W. Larpenteur, 1-3:30 p.m. Call 488-3361.

15 TUESDAY

- Lauderdale Planning Commission, City Hall, 1891 Walnut, 7:30 p.m.
- District 10 Como Community Council, 7 p.m. Call 644-3889 for location.
- Falcon Heights La Leche Group meeting, 7 p.m. Call 646-2978 for meeting location and more information.

16 WEDNESDAY

■ Langford Booster Club, Langford Park, 7:30 p.m.

18 FRIDAY

- Falcon Heights and Lauderdale recycling.
- St. Paul Schools -- last day of school before winter vacation.
- Jon Hassler reads from his new book *Underground Christmas* at Micawber's Bookstore, 1 to 2:30 p.m.

19 SATURDAY

■ Lauderdale "500" Club, City Hall, 1891 Walnut Street, 1 p.m.

Local Boy Scouts cut trees and branches at Hansen Tree Farm last month. Since then, they've been busy making handmade holiday wreaths. Photo by Barbara McCauly ■ FARE For All distribution and registration at Holy Childhood Church, 1495 Midway Parkway, 9:30 - 11 a.m. Call 644-7495; or St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, 2323 Como Ave., 8:30-10:30. Call 644-8833.

22 TUESDAY

Lauderdale City Council, City Hall, 1891 Walnut Street, 7:30 p.m.

23 WEDNESDAY

- I St. Anthony Park recycling.
- St. Anthony Park Community
 Council Environment Committee,
 South St. Anthony Rec Center,
 890 Cromwell, 7 p.m.
- St. Anthony Park Community Council Housing and Human Services Committee, South St. Anthony Rec Center, 890 Cromwell, 5:30 p.m.
- Falcon Heights, City Council, City Hall, 2077 W. Larpenteur, 7 p.m.

25 FRIDAY

Christmas.

26 SATURDAY

■ Boxing Day (Canada).

28 MONDAY

■ Como Park recycling.

Items for the January Community Calendar must be submitted to the Bugle office by 6 p.m., Friday, December 11.

The Community Calendar is sponsored monthly by

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O B I T U A R I E S

Celia Beatrice Baukol

Celia Beatrice Baukol died on October 15 at the age of 80 in Palo Alto, California. She was a former resident of St. Anthony Park from 1956 to 1970. The Baukol family lived in three different houses in the Park, including their home on Brewster Street.

"Ceil" Ronnie was born on November 29, 1917, in New Prairie. She was a graduate of Morris High School in 1934, attended St. Olaf College and the Minnesota Business School, then went to work in the Twin Cities.

On August 18, 1940, she married Magnus "Mag" Baukol. They lived in Starbuck, where they began raising their five children. After moving to St. Anthony Park in 1956, Baukol began a job as an office administrator. The Baukols were active parishioners at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church. In 1970, they moved to California to be near their children. There she worked for the Bank of America.

Preceded in death by her husband of 48 years, Magnus Baukol, and her daughter, Monika Baukol, she is survived by two sons, Michael and Kim Baukol; two daughters, Kathleen Griffin and Marcia Burnett; 12 grandchildren; a great-grandchild; and a sister Mildred Schneider.

Roy Benz

Roy F. Benz, a Falcon Heights resident, died on November 6. He was 86 years old.

Benz was a certified dental technician and owner of Northwest Dental laboratory for over 50 years. He was past president of the Minnesota Dental Lab Association, past councilman for the National Dental Lab Association, and a 56-year member of Falcon Heights United Church of Christ, where he sang in the choir for over 40 years. He was also a member of the Toastmasters and the St. Paul Musicians Union.

Survivors include his wife of 61 years, Adeline; a daughter, Sue Cox; a son, Fred Benz; five grandchildren; and three greatgrandchildren.

David Christenson

David Christenson, a former resident of Como Park, died at age 56 on October 21 in Mankato. He was a longtime banking leader in the Twin Cities and had recently lived in New Brighton. He was a member of Como Park Lutheran Church.

Christenson was a graduate of Murray High School in the class of 1960. He served in the navy from 1961 to 1963. He became a bank examiner in San Francisco and served as vice president for an Idaho Bank from 1967 to 1972, when he returned to the Twin Cities.

In 1984, he began concentrating on rural banks and owned or managed many until his death. He was also an instructor at the Minnesota School of Banking in Northfield.

Christenson is survived by his wife, Connie; children, David and Darin Christenson, and Leslie Murphy; and brothers Phil and Peter Christenson.

Alfred Fortmeyer

Alfred H. Fortmeyer, a longtime Como Park resident, died at age 97 on October 29. He was a 50-year member of Como Park Lutheran Church.

SAP Block Nurse

Fortmeyer was a member of Tusler-Summit Lodge #263, Osman Temple Shrine, Scottish Rite, St. Paul Typographical Union, Past Associate Guardian of Bethel 38 Jobs Daughters-St. Paul, Past Associate Grand Guardian of the State of Minnesota, and Lyngblomsten Senior Citizens.

Preceded in death by his wife, Hazel, and grandson, James Horvath, he is survived by two daughters, Ruth Horvath of Plymouth and Bernice Hendrickson of Bovey, Minnesota; two grandchildren, Joe Horvath of Lake Tahoe, California, and Jerilynn Horvath of Plymouth; and a niece, Lois Neils of St. Paul.

Mildred Gulbranson

Mildred Gulbranson died on October 19. She was 92 years of age and a resident of Lyngblomsten Care Center.

Gulbranson retired in 1973 from Hoerner-Waldorf Corporation after 44 years of service. She was a member of Paper Mates.

Survivors include two sisters, Myrtle Olsen and Viola Chandler; and several nieces and nephews.

Harry Knoblauch

Harry C. Knoblauch, a longtime resident of St. Anthony Park, died on October 21 at age 75. He grew up on Scudder and on Doswell avenues, then lived with his wife and 11 children on Grantham Street, next door to Murray High School. In recent years, he lived in Roseville.

A graduate of Murray High School in the class of 1942 and the University of Minnesota in physical education, he was a World War II veteran of the Navy stationed on the USS LCI (R) 1030. He retired after 42 years of selling school supplies throughout Minnesota for Farnham and J.S. Latta & Sons. He was a member of the St. Anthony Park American Legion Post 34.

As a coach of four different women's softball teams, he led them to several national tournaments. Knoblauch also served on the St. Paul Municipal Athletic Softball Board. He was a charter member of Corpus Christi Church and was an altar boy at the first Mass in 1939.

Preceded in death by three infant sons, he is survived by his wife of 47 years, Priscilla, 11 children, Mary Schreifels, Mark, Joan, Jean Mahowald, Anne, Susan, Sarah, John, Julie, Joe, and Thomas; nine grand-children; sister, Kathryn Felion; and a brother, Joseph.

Evelyn Caron Bailey LeMay

Evelyn M. Caron Bailey LeMay died on October 28 at the age of 92. She was a resident of Lyngblomsten Care Center and a founding member of Holy Childhood Catholic Church.

Evelyn Caron was born in Scranton, North Dakota, on June 6, 1906. She was married to George Bailey from 1932 until his death in 1968. In 1972, she married Ernest LeMay. She was a longtime employee of Newmans Department Store. After retirement, she enjoyed winters in Arizona and summers in her Como Park neighborhood.

Preceded in death by seven siblings, and her first husband, George Bailey, she is survived by her husband, Ernest LeMay, nieces, nephews, and stepdaughters.

Ruth Molin

Ruth M. Molin, age 100, died on November 9. She lived at the Lyngblomsten Care Center.

Molin was preceded in death by her husband, Edward, and two great-grandsons, Brent Meidlinger and James Linder. Survivors include a son, John Molin; a daughter, Phyllis Steen; six grandchildren, Betty Meidlinger, Mary Linder, John Molin II, Randall Molin, Thomas Thordson, and Linda Maroney; 11 great-grandchildren; and seven great-great-grandchildren.

Loretta O'Donnell Pemble

Loretta Ann O'Donnell Pemble, a longtime resident of Como Park on Simpson Street, died on November 1. She was 97 years of age.

O'Donnell was born on January 20, 1901, in Dallymount, Minnesota. In 1929 she married Earl Pemble, her husband for

e-mail:info@park-bank.com

55 years. They had three children, Colleen, Clyde, and Diane. She was noted for her traditional Sunday dinners.

Pemble is survived by a daughter, Diane Carlson of Edina; seven grandchildren, Steven Pemble, Elizabeth Spillman, Kimberley Carlson, Kathleen Bramhall, Lynn Schell, Jennifer Schmitz, and Garrett Carlson, Jr.; and 13 great-grandchildren.

Rose Priddy

Rose M. Priddy, who lived in the Lyngblomsten Apartments, died on November 6. She was 90 years old.

Priddy was a parishioner at Holy Childhood Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband, a daughter, eight sisters, and a brother. She is survived by a daughter, Janet Priddy of Alexandria, Virginia; a son, Gerald Priddy of Ramsey, Minnesota; six grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Adella Wardrum

Adella Wardrum, a lifelong resident of St. Paul, died on November 5. She was 101 years old and had lived recently at Lyngblomsten Care Center.

Wardrum was a former employee of the Mitchell, Dougherty, Rumble, Bunn, and Butler Law Firm. She was a member of East Immanuel Lutheran Church.

Survivors include a brother, Leonard Wardrum, and nephew, Earl Wardrum.

Elsie Wisen

Elsie Wisen, age 92, died on October 18. She was a longtime resident of Lauderdale and mother of the former mayor there.

Wisen was preceded in death by her husband, Chester Wisen. She is survived by a daughter, Rosalyn Wisen; two sons, Robert and William Wisen; nine grandchildren; 25 greatgrandchildren; and a sister, Marian Bartel.

Compiled by Ann Bulger

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People . . . from page 16

Julie Magnuson performs in Narnia, a musical based on C.S. Lewis' The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe. Narnia will run December 4 through 20 at the Howard Conn Fine Arts Center; call 623-9080 to reserve tickets. Magnuson is a senior at St. Paul Central and has been active in local theaters as well as working as a movie extra. She is a resident of St. Anthony Park.

Despite a broken leg which ended his senior soccer season prematurely, Alex Seeley of St. Anthony Park was voted Honorable Mention as an All-State Soccer Player by the Minnesota High School Soccer Coaches Association and Pioneer Press Sportswriters. A former student at St. Anthony Park Elementary and Murray Junior High, Alex is now a senior at Como Park High School in St. Paul. As co-captain of the team, he scored 25 goals and had 9 assists in 15 games for the cougars.







LIFE IN THE CHURCH: COME AND SHARE

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Skillman at Cleveland in Roseville. 651-631-0211 Bethany Baptist Morning Worship 10:45 am Sunday School 9:30 am Pastor Bruce Petersen Filipino-American Worship 11 am Dec. 24, 4 pm Christmas Eve Service Pastor Sonny Olojan

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Sunday Schedule (Nursery Provided)

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8 am & 11 am Worship (Communion 1st and 3rd Sundays)

9 am Children & Family Worship (Communion 1st and 3rd Sundays) 9:50 am Sunday School

10 am Adult & Youth Forums

Wednesdays

5:15 pm Wednesday MEAL

6 pm Bell Choir (also a group on Tuesday at 9:30 am)

6 pm Choristers (3rd-6th grade)

6:20 pm Joyful Singers (K-2nd grade) 1st & 3rd Wednesdays

7 pm Advent Vespers

7 pm Confirmation, Adult Choir

7:30 pm Youth Nite

Sunday School Christmas Program: Saturday, Dec. 12 at 4 pm and Sunday, Dec. 13 at 9 am

Christmas Eve Worship: Thursday, Dec. 24, 3 pm, 4:30 pm and 10:30 pm Christmas Day Worship 10 am

Pastors: Paul Harris and Wally Obinger

Directors of Youth and Family Ministry: Andrea and Dave Wollan

Director of Music Ministry: Thomas Ferry

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Dec. 2 and 20, 7 pm: Communical Reconciliation

Dec. 8, 8 am and 7 pm: Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Dec. 24, Christmas Eve 5 and 11 pm Mass, 10:30 pm Carols

Dec. 25, Christmas Day, 9:30 am Mass

Dec. 31, New Year's Eve Mass 5 pm

Jan. 1, New Year's Day Mass 9:30 am

MOUNT OLIVE EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH

(A WELS Congregation)

"THE CHURCH WITH A SMILE"

Handicap-accessible. Wheelchair available.

1460 Almond at Pascal. 651-645-2575

Sunday Worship: 9 am

Sunday School and Adult Bible Class: 10:30 am

Dec. 6, 9 am Croixaleers Concert

Dec. 13, 9 am Mount Olive Senior Choir Concert

Dec. 20, 9 am Mount Olive Children's Sunday School Service

Dec. 24, 7 pm Chrismas Eve Candlelight Service

Dec. 25, 9 am Christmas Day Service

Dec. 31, 7 pm Holy Communion Service

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US!

1744 Walnut at Ione. 1 block north of Larpenteur. 651-644-5440. Sunday School, Adult Education and Bible Study 9:15 am

Sunday Worship: 10:30 am, Holy Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays

Tuesday Bible Study: 10 am

Dec. 20, 10:30 am Sunday School Christmas Pageant

Dec. 24, 5 pm Christmas Eve Service with Holy Communion Dec. 25, 10 am Christmas Carol Service with Holy Communion

Pastor Drew Flathmann

ROSE HILL ALLIANCE CHURCH

Roselawn at Cleveland. 651-631-0173

Sunday English Worship: 9:30 am, Japanese Worship: 9:30 am

Sunday School: 11 am

Wednesday Int'l. Women's American Culture Class 12:30 pm (Sept. - May)

Wednesdays Jr. Hi and Sr. Hi Group 6:45 pm

Awana 6:45 pm

ST. ANTHONY PARK LUTHERAN

Como and Luther Place. Handicap-accessible. 651-645-0371

Pastors Paul Ofstedal and Reany Lindberg

Visit our website at http://www.sap.org/worship/sapl.htm Sunday Worship: 8:45 and 11 am. Nursery at both services

Sunday School 9:50

Communion 1st and 3rd Sundays

Faith Chinese Fellowship 1:30 pm Sundays

信義教會 星期天下午

Men's Prayer Group Fridays, noon

Dec. 1, 9:45 am "Advent Thirst...Christmas Hope" - 4 week study

Dec. 13, 2:30 pm Children's Christmas Program

Dec. 19, 8:30 am Fare for All

Dec. 24, 4 pm and 11 pm Christmas Eve Worship

Dec. 25, 10 am Christmas Day Worship

Dece. 28, 3-8:30 pm Red Cross Blood Drive

Our van is available for transportation to and from services.

ST. A.P. UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

2129 Commonwealth at Chelmsford. 651-646-7173

We are handicap accessible and an Open and Affirming Congregation

Dane Packard, Pastor; Carrie Sauter, Youth Coordinator

Sunday Worship & Sunday School: 10 am, Fellowship 11 am

Nursery Care Provided: 10:15 am Adult Education: Second Sunday of the month 9 am

Wednesday evening Meet & Eat followed by programs for all ages

Dec. 6, 11 am Christmas Goodies Bake Sale

Dec. 13, Intergenerational Worship

Dec. 20, Senior Choir Christmas Concert

Dec. 24, Christmas Eve Family Service at 4 pm, Candlelight Service at 11 pm

ST. A.P. UNITED METHODIST CHURCH THE CHURCH WHERE EVERYONE IS ALWAYS WELCOME

Como and Hillside. 651-646-4859

Pastor Deb Walkes

Sundays: 10 am Worship, 9:30 am Sunday School

Wednesdays 9 am - 1 pm, Leisure Center with noon lunch

Dec. 24, 5 pm Family Candlelight Service

11 pm Service of Holy Communion and Candlelight

ST. CECILIA'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Cromwell and Bayless Place. 651-644-4502

Saturday Mass: 5 pm at the church

Sunday Mass: 10 am at church (nursery provided) and

8:30 am at Seal Hi-Rise, 825 Seal St. (handicapped accessibility)

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 7 am Mass at the Parish Center

Dec. 6, 6:30 pm Advent Evening Prayer Dec. 17, 7 pm Communal Pennance

Dec. 24, 5 pm Christmas Eve Mass

Dec. 25, 8:30 am Mass at the Hi-Rise, 10:30 am Mass at Church

Jan. 1, 9 am New Year's Day Mass

ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

2136 Carter at Chelmsford. 651-645-3058

Sunday Schedule:

8:00 am Eucharist, Rite I

9:15 am Education Hour for all ages

10:30 am Eucharist Rite II Dec. 11, 7:30 pm Lessons and Carols

Christmas Services:

Dec. 24, 4:00 pm Eucharist with Pageant

10:00 pm Festival Eucharist

Dec. 25, 11:00 am Eucharist, Rite I

Dec. 27, Lessons and Carols at both Services Come and see our new and expanded building.

We are handicapped accessible

The Rev. Grant Abbott, Rector

The Rev. Lynn Lawyer, Deacon

WARRENDALE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1040 Como Ave. at Oxford. 651-489-6054

Sunday Worship: 10:15 am (nursery provided)

Sunday Church School: 9 am

Dr. Robert Bailey, Minister