The Park Bugle

NONPROFIT COMMUNITY NEWS SERVING ST. ANTHONY PARK, FALCON HEIGHTS, LAUDERDALE, AND NORTHWEST COMO PARK

MARCH 2000  ■  VOLUME 26, NUMBER 9  ■  P.O. BOX 8126, ST. PAUL, MN 55108

Preschool pro Sheila Richter retires

by Judy Woodward

T

o hear Sheila Richter talk about it, she's spent her working life doing something that's just a distant memory for most people. The long-time head of the St. Anthony Park Nursery School says, "Most adults have to dream up and do almost all of it."

When I'm at work, I get to sit on the floor, act in plays made up by 3-year-olds, and do messy art projects." For Richter, it's clear, work has mostly been pleasurable.

But all playtimes, even those conducted for purely professional reasons, must come to an end. Richter is retiring from the school when the current season is finished in June. May, she's been connected with the school in one capacity or another for more than three decades. For the last 20 years, she's been lead teacher at the school, which is located in the basement of the St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ.

For much of that time, she's also been the embodiment of early childhood education for several generations of residents.

When asked why she's leaving the school, Richter, who turns 68 this spring, laughs. "It's time to retire when you notice that your grandchildren's students are older than you are." She adds more seriously, "If I'm going to have another chapter in my life, this is the time to retire. If I wait, I won't have the energy for something new.

Energy is never something that's been in short supply in Richter's character. A slight, deceptively fragile-looking woman with a cap of dark curls, she's been keeping up with active pre-schoolers for longer than most of the parents of her current students have been alive, she says, with demure understatement, "I've always been a hard worker."

Sheila Richter to page 7

Lauderdale’s high property tax ranking puzzles community

by Judy Woodward

E

very community booster wants his town to be known as a place too beautiful to miss out on. But not in the way Lauderdale achieved its first-place ranking. When the Minnesota Taxpayers Association and the Citizens League published their joint annual property tax survey last autumn, Lauderdale discovered that it led the State in property taxes paid on a $125,000 house. 

In the arcane world of government finance, nothing is quite what it seems, and alarming statistics can sometimes get in the way of the truth. Lauderdale’s apparently sky-high tax rates seem to be a case in point. 

Every year, the Minnesota Taxpayers Association and the Citizens League in conjunction with two national research organizations, the Brookings Institution and the Tax Foundation, publish a survey of property tax rates in metropolitan areas across the country. This year, Lauderdale came in on top of the region’s 107 communities. 

But Lauderdale is a community of 22,000 households, pays far less than $2,311. That’s because Lauderdale’s modest houses are valued lower than the metro average. For purposes of taxation, the average assessment in Lauderdale is only $85,228 or almost $40,000 less than the metro average. Last year, the actual property tax bill in Lauderdale averaged around $1,300.

The second cautionary note was sounded by Lauderdale City Manager, Rick Getzow. He says, "Nothing is as it seems."

New community council head seeks to be top-notch facilitator

by Judy Woodward

S

ome people are lucky enough to experience a brief moment of self-definition when their life’s work suddenly reveals itself. For Carol Madison, the newly appointed executive director of the St. Anthony Park Community Council, the catalyst for her personal "aha" moment was a missing stop sign. Four missing stop signs, in fact. 

One day in the early 1980’s, Madison noticed that there were many auto accidents happening on the unmarked St. Paul street corner on which she lived. Madison organized a successful neighborhood campaign to persuade the city to install four-way stop signs, and, along the way, she found her calling in life. "I’ve been involved with neighborhood issues ever since," is how she sums up her steady progress from hard-working community volunteer to her current salaried position as facilitator than a policy-maker. "As executive director I won’t make decisions. That’s not my job. My role is to gather information for the elected members of the community council so that they make good decisions."

The council worked hard under former Director Heather Worthington to make our group visible and representative of the neighborhood. I’d like that to continue."

Although she describes herself as still learning the new parts of her job, she’s confident that she understands the essence of St. Anthony Park. "This is such a quiet community on the edge of St. Paul," she says. "There’s such a strong feeling of neighborhood, and people want to protect that. The area has very low crime and people work to keep it that way."

Madison is a concrete thinker, who’s much more comfortable pressing a sheet of neighborhood crime statistics on a visitor than indulging herself in broad speculations about her role and the challenges that lie before her. Different when asked what general message she has for the residents of St. Anthony Park, she’s full of detailed observations and precise suggestions on what residents can do to lessen their chances of being hit by crime. "The crime of theft is..."
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Taxes... from page 1

"Don't equate property taxes with city spending. Lauderdale ranks 85th out of 120 area communities when it comes to spending money per resident," he explains. He believes that the rate of city tax levies is relatively high, not because of generous spending, but because Lauderdale has few high-value buildings or commercial properties to ease the tax burden of the average homeowner.

Gertschow also reminds residents that city taxes account for only 20 percent of the Lauderdale property tax burden. "Fifty percent of the tax bill goes to support the Roselle School District," says Gertschow, "and the rest goes to Ramsey County. When these annual tax surveys come out, it's always some community in the Roselle School District that turns out to be ranked Number One."

The Roselle School District, according to the latest figures available from the Minnesota Department of Children, Families & Learning, gets 68 percent of its funding from local property taxes and only 29 percent from State revenues. By contrast, the nearby North St. Paul/Maplewood School District depends on local property taxes for only about half its revenue and gets almost that much again from State and Federal sources.

Barbara Anderson, Roselle School District's assistant director for finance and budgeting, explains that this is because, under the complex educational funding formula designed by the State Legislature, the Roselle School District is considered a "property-rich" district with relatively high housing values and a strong commercial property base. Little Lauderdale with its modest housing values and dearth of commercial property is overshadowed, to some extent, by the high valuations given Rosedale Mall and other Roselle property.

Anderson is unapologetic when she acknowledges that per-pupil spending in the Roselle District is higher than the state average. She says, "We've been blessed with support from the community. There were no phone calls of protest to this office after the last tax bills went out. To me that's an indication that there is satisfaction with the schools.

As for Gertschow, he's advising taxpayers to look ahead. "For 2000, the school and county tax levies were kept the same," he asserts, "so I guarantee that Lauderdale won't be Number One next time."

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Carrol Madison... from page 1

the biggest source of crime in the neighborhood, and 50 percent of all her cases are from cars," she explains. "This is a crime of opportunity. Purses and purchases get left on the seats of cars, and cars aren't locked. Thieves drive through the neighborhood.

Madison understands residents' concerns about neighborhood crime, but she points out that there were almost 50 fewer incidents of theft in 1999 than in 1998.

When not researching the issues before the community council, Madison can often be found volunteering her time at her son's school. A capable-looking woman who looks as if she could be counted on for almost any job that needs doing around the classroom, Madison is the mother of a pre-schooler and a first-grader. She and her husband, a machinist and small businessman, live in St. Paul. She describes her as "camping family, every weekend in the summer" who have found a hideaway "on a peninsula" where the sounds of distant traffic can be heard only if she makes an effort.

As she begins her new job, Madison is looking for more from the population she serves. More involvement, that is. "I'd like to see more people stand for election to the council, more people take part in the council committees, more volunteers on specific issues. We've had people call and make comments. We'd like to hear from more of them."

Carol Madison

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CITY FILES

Como Park
Park clean-up on April 15
Volunteers are needed to participate in a three-hour trash clean-up at Como Park on Saturday, April 15, from 9 a.m. to noon. Each year thousands of people donate their time during the event, creating a beautiful and safe St. Paul. Families, individuals, and groups of all ages are encouraged to help. Call Jamis at 366-6548 to register.

St. Anthony Park
New committee will resolve College Park debate
At its February 9 meeting, the St. Anthony Park Community Council created a committee to bring to a conclusion plans for new playground equipment in College Park. This committee includes members of the original task force that has been studying the issue for the past year, as well as new members who attended dispute resolution meetings on the issue this winter.

Committee members are: Fred Foster, Suzanne Garfield, Mark Gauder, Mary Coffin, Mark Lagona, Mary Maguire Lerman, Barbara Murdock, John Schumacher, Mark Sherman, and Carol Zeiler. A facilitator will be appointed by the Council.

The committee will consider the original task force proposals as well as ideas presented at the two winter meetings facilitated by the Dispute Resolution Center. One idea raised at those meetings was to remove one of the existing tennis courts at College Court and place some of the new play equipment in that space.

The Community Council welcomed written comments to be forwarded to the committee: SAPCC, 890 Cromwell Avenue, St. Paul, 55114 or e-mail them to district12@ci.stpaul.mn.us

A town meeting will be convened later in March to review plans generated by the committee. A final proposal will be presented to the Community Council at its April 12 meeting.

— Dave Hays

Garden plots open
Applications for community garden plots, located in south St. Anthony Park, are available at Hampden Park Co-op at Hampden and Raymond Avenue. For information about the community garden, contact Sherman Eagles, 646-6667.

Midway Home and Garden Show
The Midway Home and Garden Show is set for Saturday, March 18, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., at Bandana Square. Information booths and demonstration tables address home improvement, gardening, landscaping, and household community services. Admission and parking are free. — D.H.

Town meeting set for March 8
On Wednesday March 8 a town meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Murray Jr. High School auditorium in conjunction with the March St. Anthony Park Community Council meeting. Representatives from Water Utility will present design plans for a refurbished water tower at Cleveland and Dudley in Falcon Heights. Also, the University of Minnesota Land Use Task Force will report on anticipated changes for the St. Paul campus, including parking policies. Finally, at the March 8 meeting the council will announce the time and location of another March town meeting to discuss the College Park playground equipment issues. — D.H.

Wheels stop on Como Avenue bikeway
The proposed Como Avenue Bikeway Project, a joint venture of St. Paul’s Department of Public Works and the Bicycle Advisory Board, is on hold. Project plans were reviewed by the Minnesota Department of Transportation, which determined that requirements for receiving federal funding for the project could probably not be met by the current proposal.

Cromwell/Byways safety
South St. Anthony Park residents continued to discuss traffic and safety in the Cromwell/Byway area met in January with the St. Anthony Park Community Council’s Physical Planning Committee. Interested residents met again on February 15. Anyone who wants to attend future meetings of this group can call Carol Madison at 649-5992. Comments may also be sent to the community council office at 890 Cromwell Avenue, St. Paul, 55114 or via email to district12@ci.stpaul.mn.us.

Minneapolis developing industrial area west of Highway 280
Draft plans for the Southeast Minneapolis Industrial Area (SMIA) and the Alternative Urban Areawide Review (AUAR) will be discussed at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 15, in the community room at University Village, 2515 University Avenue SE, in Minneapolis. SMIA borders St. Anthony Park. The AUAR provides an alternative to environmental impact statements and assessment worksheets, which are traditionally needed for any kind of commercial development.

State Capitol
Hausman wins Sierra Club nod
Representative Alice Hausman (DFL) received a perfect score on the Minnesota Sierra Club’s 1999 environmental voting record survey. Legislative votes examined by the environmental group included measures dealing with drinking water, motor oil recycling, toxic heavy metal, pollutants from factory farm feedlots, timber management, noise pollution, urban sprawl, and parks. The Sierra Club’s complete legislative record can be found at http://www.environmental-values.org/votes and scores.htm.

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Little bank, big heart

O ur front-page features a news story about Park Bank changing its name to St. Anthony Park Bank, which highlights the institution's strong neighborhood ties. The bank's move is business as usual, and residents of the Midway community have already embraced the change, making it to "the dominate bank in the Midway." The story is followed by a note that the bank's new name is St. Anthony Park Bank, which has "removed the "dADED" sign in the front door of the St. Anthony Park Library." The note also mentions that the bank "will be rebranded as St. Anthony Park Bank in the near future." The bank's commitment to the community is strong, and this move is expected to strengthen those ties even further.

Thank you, Sheila Richter

O n behalf of the city's park system, we would like to extend our appreciation to Sheila Richter, the director of community relations for St. Anthony Park Library. Richter's hard work and dedication have made a significant impact on the community, and we are grateful for her leadership. She is a true asset to the park system and a role model for others in our community.

Next issue March 30

Deadlines:

Display ad deadline: March 16
News & classifieds deadline: March 17

The Park Bugle

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Letters

More on College Park: compromise welcome

While the task force for a College Park playground has worked hard to develop plans for a new play area with modern equipment, the process for involving the community has been inadequate. College Park is a unique community asset, and no major alteration to it needs to be put before the entire neighborhood. A "request for participation" in the Bugle is not enough. A letter to the editor referred to "residents living adjacent to College Park" does not come close to involving the participation of all stakeholders. To further communicate the issue was framed as "the replacement of "old and unsafe" playground equipment, not the relocation of the playground itself. As soon as it became apparent that relocating the playground was the only option for installing new equipment, the county commissioners had notified the entire neighborhood of the problem and invited all neighbors for their input.

That said, the community's decision to build the new Diocese Resolution Committee was wise. What happened at the January 27 DRC meeting is what should have happened at the beginning of this project: residents invited from the entire community sharing their opinions, ideas and concerns with one another and hearing each other out. Although the DRC process was a good start to sorting out the options and helping people communicate, it didn't go far enough. At the Community Council meeting of February 9, after members had a chance to hear from both the task force chair and a few neighbors involved in the DRC process, council member Chris Caussey had the courage and courtesy to acknowledge the process. That would involve discussing the western-most tennis courts left untouched as much of the open greens space west of the tennis courts (the East Overlook) as possible, an option many neighbors of the DRC process already supported.

It is hoped that such a compromise plan will please more residents than the current plan which proposes to occupy most of the East Overlook. Indeed, no plan will please everyone — but we should aim for pleasing a super majority. To do otherwise means too many residents dissatisfied and would serve to divide us even further.

I believe optimism prevailed at the council's meeting but the important issue is to seek a compromise that will be acceptable to the entire neighborhood. A "request for participation" in the Bugle is not enough. A letter to the editor referred to "residents living adjacent to College Park" does not come close to involving the participation of all stakeholders. To further communicate the issue was framed as "the replacement of "old and unsafe" playground equipment, not the relocation of the playground itself. As soon as it became apparent that relocating the playground was the only option for installing new equipment, the county commissioners had notified the entire neighborhood of the problem and invited all neighbors for their input.

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Suzanne Garfield

Tight little island: St. Anthony Park?

1. Who owns homes on lots of various sizes? Homeowners.
2. Who owns the businesses that are operated to benefit our neighbors and not for the personal gain of the business owners.
3. Who owns and operates the St. Anthony Park Library? The Postal Service.
5. Who owns and operates College Park? The City of St. Paul and the
MARCH 2000 — PARK BUGLE

O P I N I O N

The billboard battle continues

by Robert D. Straughn

freeways and highways, where they will have the most negative effect on our image. Such a policy would undermine our commercial and industrial areas, and it would only help to make the city more attractive for St. Paul to compete for business. Billboards not only detract from our existing commercial and industrial areas, they present a significant barrier to redevelopment. In many cases, the cost of acquiring the property interests of billboards stands in the way of redeveloping urban properties. Randown properties may be worth less than the billboards that sit on them. The increased cost may be the difference between a development moving forward and continued urban blight.

Many of St. Paul's billboards are marginal — they seldom contain commercial messages, they are often out of date, and are frequently in dilapidated condition. Eventual, marginal billboards will be removed by the billboard companies and landowners, whether or not they can be replaced. But if they are relocated to our freeways and highways through a cap-and-replace system, the eventual cost of removing existing billboards would be prohibitive.

A cap-and-replace policy which encourages relocation of billboards to our commercial and industrial areas is unacceptable. St. Paul needs to follow the lead of its suburban neighbors by prohibiting construction of new billboards and by prohibiting relocation or replacement of existing billboards. The image and business vitality of our city would best be served by a concerted effort to remove billboards from our commercial and industrial areas, not by adding more.

Ms. Straughn serves on the St. Anthony Park Community Council and chairs its Physical Planning Committee. He also currently serves as co-chair of the University Avenue Corridor Initiative.

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ST. ANTHONY PARK COMMUNITY COUNCIL ELECTION

On April 11, 2000, the SAPPCC will hold its 27th consecutive election. Neighbors are invited to run for a delegate position on the Council. We are looking for residents of St. Anthony Park who are interested in neighborhood issues such as zoning and planning, the environment, and housing. The Council is the local representative body to the City of St. Paul. The time commitment for Council activities is approximately two meetings a month. This is a wonderful way to get involved in the neighborhood, meet your neighbors, and work for your neighborhood.

Call Can at 649-5992 if you have questions about serving on the Council. Please use the filing statement in this issue or one to be sent to you. Please be sure to return the filing statement to the SAPPCC office, 890 Cromwell Ave. St. Paul, MN 55114, by March 15th at 5 p.m. Candidates will be profiled in the April issue of the Park Bugle.

North/South St. Anthony Park (circle one)

St. Anthony Park Community Council Filing Statement

April 11, 2000 Election

Name: __________________________ Address: __________________________

Phone (home) __________________________ (work) __________________________

Occupation: __________________________

Verification of Eligibility
* I desire to be a candidate for election to the St. Anthony Park Community Council.
* I reside in an own property in the area described by the St. Anthony Park Community Council bylaws as North or South St. Anthony Park.

* I am at least 16 years of age.

* If I am elected I will discharge the obligations of office in a non-sectarian and non-partisan manner and shall not discriminate because of color, creed, marital status, country of origin, sex, sexual preference, age, financial status or position. I will govern Council business according to the Policies and Bylaws of the St. Anthony Park Community Council.

I am aware that the proper discharge of duties of office if elected will require at least two meetings per month and that absences from meetings may result in automatic removal from office.

Signature: __________________________ Date: __________________________

Please type or print, in 100 words or less, any information that you would like to share with voters about why you would like to serve as a representative to the St. Anthony Park Community Council. This information may include your background, your family, unique skills, talents, and experiences.

Please include a recent photograph of yourself to be published in the Bugle and/or pre-election flyer.

Turns in your filing statement to the St. Anthony Park Community Council, 890 Cromwell Avenue, by March 15, 2000, no later than 5 p.m. Call 649-5992 if you have questions. Thanks!
Kids speak out about being rich or poor

School News reporter Lisa Steinmann asked youngsters in Mrs. Turselli's 3rd grade classroom at Como Park Elementary what does it mean to be rich or poor? And here are the children's responses.

"If I were rich, I would be cool. I would buy one puppy, a mansion with a big swimming pool, food, and everything my puppy wants." — BRITTANY

"If I were rich I would leave this school and go to a different one. And I would go to a house by a limo. I would also buy new clothes. To be poor is to be very sad." — JACOB

"I would collect cans, if I were poor. If I were rich I would give money to poor people." — OREI

"Everyone thinks it is horrible to be poor. They are basically right, although they make it sound worse than it is. My grandma said she was poor when she was growing up and it wasn't that bad." — CHRISTINE

"If I were rich, I would share and give my money away." — VANG

"What is it like to be rich? It's cool to be rich and the rich can help people." — CLAUDIA

"What is it like to be poor? You have nothing. No food, clothes, money, house. If you're rich you have a house, jewelry, and dresses." — CHIA

"If you're rich you can have anything you want. When you're poor you have to live in the garbage and eat stuff from the garbage." — MAI

"Some kids are mean to other kids because they are poor. If I were rich I would ride in a limo, but I wouldn't be mean to others." — JACOB

"What it would be like to be rich. I would buy a big house, I would also buy a rabbit because I love rabbits." — KATY

"When you're rich you can have all the stuff you want. You can have all Pokemon cards available and all the pets you want." — JOSH

"Being rich means you can have treats to eat, like Cheetos. You can be a prince or princess. And you can have a computer. When you don't have a lot of money people say 'you are poor' and hurt your feelings." — VEE XAT

"What is it like to be rich or poor? If I was rich I'd share my money with the poor, who don't have food or clothing." — KATHERINE

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SCHOOL NEWS

Students at Como Park High School register for fall 2000 courses during the month of March. Among their choices are Advanced Placement courses. Students experience college level work in high school while studying subjects such as Physics, Calculus, European History and World Languages. Thirteen different courses are offered. This is the largest of the AP courses offered at any high school in the state of Minnesota.

At Murray Junior High 37 students will take their winning science fair projects to regional competition at Augsburg College this spring. Wl Olson, winner of the school spelling bee, is going on to regional competition as well. Meanwhile, the walkthrough passage has opened to traffic but the rest of the new construction has run behind schedule. The new office space is scheduled to open at the end of February. Classrooms will be set up in the former office space.

The winner of the Chelsea Heights' Elementary School January Spelling Bee is Kelly Grazaffi. The Geography Bee winner is Anthony Coffey. February 14 was "Visit your Child at School Day." This event, sponsored by the National African American Parent Involvement Group, was the occasion at Chelsea Heights for parents to join their children for breakfast and other activities scheduled throughout the day.

Students at Falcon Heights Elementary School participated in an art contest during February. Winning artwork that shows what school spirit is will be featured in the yearbook. Parents were invited to attend a workshop called "1-2-3 Magic and More That offered solutions to dealing with challenging behaviors.

During February students at St. Anthony Park Elementary School enjoyed several special events. Fifth graders had a day of ice skating and winter fun at Lakefield Park during their annual Silver Sparkle Party. Mixed Blood Theatre performed Daughters of Africa, and fifth and sixth graders participated in the school science fair. Sixth graders elected new members to the student council:

President, Inga Carlson-Clark, Vice-President, Sophie Sprostom and Secretary/Treasurer, Mao Vang. The winner of the school Spelling Bee is Nat Shepard, who advances to city semi-finals. Fifth grader, Sylvia Page is the runner up. Events during March include a School Band Concert on March 3-2:45 to 3:20 p.m. in the gym. March 9 is the next SAPSA meeting. March 27 to 31 is the Celebration of Talents at SAP; all students will have artwork on display.

The Brimholl Elementary School community welcomed in the Chinese New Year on February 4 with a dragon dance through the hallways. Students continue their global celebration with studies about China, Japan, and Korea. Special Education teacher Julie Averbeck taught classes in Japanese tea ceremonies. On February 9, students, staff, and parents enjoyed an exciting assembly featuring Ms Daido—Japanese style drumming.

— Lisa Steinmann
Sheila Richter . . . from page 1

On nursery school mornings, Richter is the center of every activity and the focal point of a dozen or more children’s needs and creative skills. But she observes as well as she directs, and she watches as she guides.

And, after 20 years in the classroom, she has some very interesting things to say about young children. “You are how consistent people are in temperament. If a young child is a risk-taker at age 4, he or she will still be a risk-taker in later life. Contemporaries are still contemplative years later,” Richter contends.

With leadership qualities, it may work a little differently, though. “A leader needs followers,” she says, “Often a kid with really good ideas can come across as a really bossy preschooler.” One of the opportunities offered by the social give-and-take of nursery school, explains Richter, is the chance to learn how to frame a situation in a way that can change social reaction into acceptance. She describes an incident where she observed two children playing in a pretend boat. A little girl came up and wanted to join the others in the boat, but the children said no. After another couple of rejections, the little girl came back with a play frying pan and offered to “cook” the fish they were catching. Her idea caught the interest of the others and she was immediately included in the new game of “fish fry.”

Richter, “That little girl’s behavior was characteristic of a future leader. She was rejected, she persevered, and she was able to re-structure the situation and present attractive alternatives.”

Richter notes that, over the years that she’s taught, the parents have changed more than the children have. Fathers, she notes, are more involved in the lives of their young children than they were in earlier years. “Ten or 15 years ago, when I would phone the parents, I would have to speak to the mother. Now I speak to whoever answers the phone.” She adds, “Dads are wonderful caregivers. They’re often more playful than mothers, they don’t take risks and the kids love it. But it’s the mothers who keep the system afloat.”

“Mothers are leading more complex lives. They juggle work along with everything else. If you try to do it all, it’s hard,” she states. Richter points out that when mothers are chronically short on time, society can suffer. “It takes time to develop deep friendships, but people who do carry the cohesion of the community. We’re going to have to honor the time people spend talking to each other.”

The other change Richter sees after decades of teaching is the growth of media influences on young children. Although she says there’s a place for well monitored TV and electronics in family life, she states, “It’s best for really young children to explore the real world rather than the virtual world. They learn more by doing than by watching.” She adds, “I can always tell which children are in the group watching TV because they’re fidgety. They’re not involved in their environment.”

If Richter has always been able to maintain an independent viewpoint on the intricacies of the social life of young children, it may be, in part, because she received some early lessons in social detachment, herself. The daughter of an American diplomat, she had lived on three different continents before she started high school.

Now, she’ll be entering another new room someday soon, this time, as a volunteer. Although Richter says she has no definite plans beyond finding a “very good teacher” as her replacement at the nursery school, her voice still rings with enthusiasm when the subject is children and learning. “I like to be at the moment when learning takes place. That ‘ah-ha’ moment is so exciting for me.”

She mentions the “wonderful families” of the children at St. Anthony Park Nursery School and comments, “Those are very lucky children. I want some time to volunteer with a different population of less privileged children.”

Whatever the future holds, Richter plans to have a wonderful time with the very serious work of child’s play.
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Raymond Zeller, plumber
Plumbing is in Raymond Zeller's DNA. After all, his father and grandfather practiced the trade and the Monroe High School graduate followed their lead. He specializes in fixing toilets, sinks, and garbage disposals. Service is the secret of Zeller's business, which highlights lower costs than bigger enterprises at competitive prices. So, is the prevailing thought that plumbers are wealthy a myth or real? "I'm sure there are some rich plumbers, but I'm not one of them," sighs Zeller. According to Zeller, Gerber makes the best toilets and Delta produces excellent faucets. Raymond Zeller can be reached at 645-5421. — D.A.

Brian Wulf, appliance repairman

Brian Wulf hopes to become the neighborhood Kenmore and Whirlpool repairman. The Merriam Park native, who grew up in the shadows of the Town & Country Club, began fixing things as a youngster, first bicycles, then cars, and, naturally, appliances. Wulf emphasizes "old fashioned, personalized" service, which he defines as being more accessible and flexible than chain repair services. "I'm not a big corporation and I don't want to become one." So, what sort of appliances does Wulf own? "A Kenmore washer and Whirlpool dryer." Quele surprise. For repair service please call Wulf at 647-9191. — D.A.

Merl Goodmanson, concrete specialist
If your 1911 basement is wet, if the 1966 side walk is crumbling or if you want to have a retaining wall so the lawn won't wash into the street or you are tired of parking in mud, Goodmanson Construction (631-2056) can help. Concrete specialists for 20 years, they guarantee all their work. "I like working in the Park, because of the old architecture each job is different and needs to be done in a unique way," says Merl Goodmanson. — T.O.

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Jim Larson, painter

It seems as if everyone knows Jim Larson, the St. Anthony Park-based painter extralaurdinaire. A native of this borough, he possesses a steel-trap memory about the neighborhood’s social history, including who needs a paint job! Larson Decorating tackles large and small jobs, both interior and exterior projects. Since business is booming for Larson, the business is also a family enterprise that welcomes his children and wife, Rachel, at the job site. Reliability and precision are Larson Decorating’s creed. Call 644-5188. — D.A.

John Reitan, piano tuner

Although there are many people who tune pianos in this area, the person I have been using and recommending to my students for the last several years is John Reitan (666-4466) of Roseville. He has been tuning pianos since 1983 when he became certified by the Twin Cities chapter of the Piano Tuners Guild and besides tuning, he does light maintenance, action rebuilding and installation of humidification systems. In short, if it doesn’t involve actually removing the piano from the premises, he will do it.

The process for certification is a rigorous one involving 4-6 hours of testing of both tuning skills and technical knowledge. Certified tuners also attend yearly meetings one week a year and hourly meetings each month to keep current and Reitan takes all of this very seriously. He also does a very thorough job of tuning. The first time he tuned my piano he spent nearly four hours doing it and subsequent times has spent at least two. He even comes in with a small vacuum cleaner to get the interior of the piano and has cleaned between the pegs with Q-tips. And no, he doesn’t do windows. (I’ve asked!). — M.C.

Ron Wagner, dance repairman

Ron Wagner and he approaches his appliance repair with the same pro fixes everything from ovens and stoves to washers and dryers as a typical Wagner week, usually seven days don’t pass. Unfortunately, he reports, it’s typically not cost effective to his business on St. Anthony Park and the Bryn Mawr though he boasts clients across the Twin Cities. By being taught, he is more accountable and cost competitive than many friendly personality and accurate service. Wagner’s phone is at (612) 840-3598 or (612) 377-1310. — D.A.

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Anger
All of our lives, according to Tolliver, the second most difficult thing is the rapidity of the change in high-technology industries prospering and professional societies such as the USA, Minnesota, and St. Anthony Park. 

When change occurs in this country, it tends to occur through democratic principles and structures. Change occurs and is achieved through majority rule "with the rights of the minority protected." We don’t always "get our way" — we don’t always win." But change will occur to benefit the greatest number of citizens. What are all those common phrases (some would call them cliches) about? In the meetings about parks and playgrounds, a marvelous range of points of view is being presented. That’s good. However, public lands, parks, and playgrounds are for the use of everyone. As Langford would become on the 4th of July: almost anything non-threatening goes: apparel, costumes, banners, decor, jewelry, makeup, posters, greetings, slogans, parade vehicles, transportation, picnic celebrations, family gatherings. Remember: individually, we do not own parks and playgrounds. Everybody, collectively, owns them. But if we think of and for the future, we must think of who will gain most of free-safe-open playgrounds — our children. They are the future. Let’s build and construct them. Then all of us are winners.

Unfriendly parking restrictions

For the past 10 years I have been doing my civic duty by serving on the St. Anthony Park Community Council’s Housing and Services Committee and a couple years on the Planning Committee. Recently, a group asked for permit parking only from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. near Dudley Avenue. They don’t want students clogging up the place. This attitude — snowball throughout the Park. After the group offered their petitions, with signatures from 80 percent of the residents, to the committee, I went over to look at the parking situation on five different days. On one block I found, on three different days at 7 a.m., 12 vehicles with permits displayed on their dashboards. In other
etc.

People
Hamline University students Luke Trexel, son of Richard and Connie Trexel, and Julie Magnuson, daughter of Kathy Magnuson, were named to the dean's list for the fall term at the College of Liberal Arts.

St. Olaf College junior Erika Backberg, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Brian Backberg, recently returned to Minnesota after studying politics and culture around the world as part of St. Olaf College's global semester international studies program.


Mark Pederson, a 1977 Murray High School graduate, is a Fellow to the American Physical Society. As a physicist, who holds a Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin at Madison, his work deals with the development and application of computational methodologies for understanding how molecules and clumps of atoms behave.

Pederson is the son of Carolyn and stepfather, Dale, Castfield, of St. Anthony Park.

Sophie Rose, weighing 6 pounds and 15 oz., came into Amy Grove and Todd Ross' lives on December 16.

Thespians unite
Attention thespians, directors, set decorators, and stagehands! If you're interested in participating in a St. Anthony Park-based playhouse please call Rick Beson at 523-7830 or via e-mail at rick@park-bank.com. The St. Anthony Park Bank is helping to underwrite the initial costs.

Socializing
The Church of St. Cecilia invites friends and neighbors to its annual dinner on Sunday, March 5, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., in the congregation's basement. A roast turkey dinner with all the trimmings is popularly priced at $6.50, while children ages 8 and under dine for free. Take a chance on winning the $500 raffle by buying a $1 ticket. The church is local at 2357 Bayview Place in south St. Anthony Park.

Seniors
The youth of St. Anthony Park, with assistance from their parents, are hosting the Seniors Mardi Gras Dinner Party on Sunday, March 7, beginning at 3 p.m. Soups, spaghetti, beef stroganoff, and macaroni and cheese top the menu. Guests may wear fancy dress, including costumes, masks, ethnic attire, and uniforms.

Donations benefit the Merrimac Park Food Shelf. Meanwhile, transportation as well as valet parking is available. Please RSVP by Friday, March 3, by calling Barbara McCauley at 645-0371.

Como Park's Living at Home Black Nurse program is participating in an educational forum about caring for aging parents this month. Topics include perceptions, community resources, and financial and legal concerns. Classes meet on Sunday, March 4, 11, 14, and 25, from 9:30 to 11 a.m., at Harding Community Education. Please call Theresa Buckley at 662-1127.

Rec News
Registration for summer softball and baseball at Longford Park and South St. Anthony Park rec centers begins on Monday, March 13 and continues through Friday, March 31. Boys and girls, ages 8 to 18, may register.

A field trip to the Science Museum of Minnesota is set for Friday, March 31, from approximately 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The day costs $7 for children over age 13 and $8.50 for youngsters under 13.

The Longford Booster Club meets every third Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m.

Arts
Falcon Heights neighbors Sharon Castle, Margot Olsen, and Paul Walke take centerstage when the Roseville String Ensemble performs the music of Bach, Vivaldi, and Massenet under conductor James Riccardo's baton on Wednesday, March 22, 7:30 p.m., at Advent Lutheran Church, 3000 North Hamline Avenue, Roseville.

Debbie Duncan and Friends launch Como Park Conservatory's Evenings Under Glass on Thursday, March 16. Jazz and soul saxophonist Ronny Loews performs on Thursday, March 23 and the Minnesota Electrifying Band stars on Thursday, March 30. All concerts run from 7 to 9 p.m., cost $5, and are held at the conservatory, which is located west of the Lexington Parkway and Estabrook entrance.

Worship
An ecumenical Mardi Gras worship service is set for Sunday, March 5, 10 a.m., when parishioners from St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ, and St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church gather at the Methodist church for an intergregational service that spotlights the three congregation's choirs.

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The neighborhood shopping spy

by Amy Causton

Sometimes we take our neighborhood thoroughfares for granted. Take Hamline Avenue, for instance. Many times we drive by on our way to work or to the mall, but we forget that there’s a lot to be found on Hamline Avenue itself. As a matter of fact, you can find items for all your basic needs — food, clothing, shusters, transportation, and health.

Start at the Hamline/Larpenteur intersection and you can take complete care of your car.

Borer Auto Repair Service
(651) 344-5665, currently celebrating its 35th anniversary, is a Falcon Heights and north Como Park favorite, offering friendly and reliable service. Owner Bob Valencourt oversees the business, which is rare nowadays. Meanwhile, additional neighborhood auto service encompasses Tires Plus
(651) 344-5490 and Precision Tires
(651) 344-5665.

Hungry? Eat at Mort’s Fish & Chips
(651) 344-5299 for some hearty food. They have not only fish and chips, but twitter and chips as well, available in baskets or by the piece. You can even order a combination basket if you’re feeling indecisive. All food is available for eat in or take out (don’t forget to ask for some malt vinegar!). Hours are 11 a.m.—8:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday open till 9 on Fridays.

Next door to Mort’s is
Midtown Cleaners & Tailors
(651) 344-7300. Not only can you do your standard dry cleaning and storage here, but they also offer blind cleaning, rug cleaning, tailoring and alterations. One-day service is available, so you can get your favorite shirt cleaned in a hurry.

If you are looking for a new favorite shirt, or any other item of clothing for that matter, go a little further south on Hamline and stop by JF’s Quality Used Clothing
(651) 344-4932. You can wander through room after room full of all manner of clothing and accessories for men, women, and children. Their stock ranges from funky vintage wear from the ’50s and ’60s to contemporary outerwear and athletic shoes. And if you’re looking for a comfortable pair of jeans, this is the place—they have hundreds of pairs, already broken in.

Above is Blomberg Pharmacy
(651) 344-9645, an old-fashioned neighborhood drug store and gift shop. Not only can you get your prescription filled and pick up some bandages or cough syrup, but you can buy a greeting card, buy a stamp, and mail is without leaving the store. Blomberg’s also has an extensive selection of unusual gifts and a public copier and fax. It’s the kind of store that reminds you of what Garrison Keillor says about “Ralph’s Pretty Good Grocery.” “If you can’t find it here, you probably don’t need it.”

Speaking of needs, I mentioned shelter, and when it comes to your home, find Sandy Roth’s My Turn
(651) 344-6355 — a fascinating store specializing in used, unique and antique furniture and accessories. Walking into it is a little like stepping into Grandma’s attic. There are beautiful pieces of furniture decorated with old china, figurines, books — even a vintage Shirley Temple doll with its original box. Walk art can be found down the street at Sally Marie Gallery
(651) 344-5665), where works by Thomas Kinkade, Susan Amidon, G. Harve reel. Additional winners are also sold at competitive prices.

Then, if the neighborhood isn’t enough, call A Wide World of Travel
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C O M M U N I T Y  C A L E N D A R

1 Wednesday
- Leisure Center for Seniors, St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Lunch reservations by Monday. Call 605-8946. Every Wednesday.

2 Thursday
- Toastmasters, U.S. Forest Service, 1992 Fulwider Avenue, St. Paul Campus, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. 649-5162. Every Thursday.
- Tot Time (for 5-year-olds and younger), St. Anthony Park Recreation Center, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Every Tuesday. Call 298-5765 for details.

8 Wednesday
- St. Anthony Park recycling.
- Falcon Heights City Council, City Hall, 2077 W. Larpenteur, 7 p.m. Call 488-3361.

9 Saturday
- Junior High Night, Langford Park Rec Center, 7:10 p.m. Program permission required. Call 298-5765 for details.

13 Monday
- Park Pres Inc., Park Bugle board meeting, St. Anthony Park Bank community room, 7 a.m.
- Falcon Heights Senior Card Club, Falcon Heights City Hall, 2077 W. Larpenteur, 1:30 p.m. Call 488-3361.
- American Red Cross Bloodmobile, Corpus Christi Church, 2151 Fairview Avenue, 11:30 to 7 p.m.

14 Tuesday
- Historian and Como Park neighbor Duke Addicks tells stories about St. Anthony Park of yore, St. Anthony Park Library, 6:30 p.m.
- Falcon Heights City Council, City Hall, 1891 Walnut Street, 7:30 p.m.

15 Wednesday
- Langford Booster Club, Langford Park, 7:30 to 9 p.m. All residents are invited to attend.

16 Thursday
- Prayer and Healing, featuring Mary Jo Kremer, director of the University of Minnesota's Center for Spirituality and Healing, St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 7 to 8:30 p.m.

17 Friday
- St. Patrick's Day
- Falcon Heights and Lauderdale recycling.

20 Monday
- Como Park recycling.
- Falcon Heights Senior Card Club, Falcon Heights City Hall, 2077 W. Larpenteur, 1:30 p.m. Call 488-3361.

22 Wednesday
- St. Anthony Park recycling.
- Falcon Heights City Council, City Hall, 2077 W. Larpenteur, 7 p.m.
- St. Anthony Park Community Council Housing and Human Services Committee, South St. Anthony Rec Center, 800 Cranwell, 5:30 p.m.
- St. Anthony Park Community Council Environment Committee, South St. Anthony Rec Center, 800 Cranwell, 7 p.m.

23 Thursday
- "Healing and Caring: Can you have one without the other?" by Ted Bowman, St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church, 7 to 8:30 p.m.

25 Saturday
- Fare For All food distribution and registration at Holy Childhood Church, 1345 Midway Parkway, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. Call 644-7495; or St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, 2323 Como Avenue, 8:30-10:30 a.m. Call 644-8833.

27 Monday
- Falcon Heights Senior Card Club, Falcon Heights City Hall, 2077 W. Larpenteur, 1-3:30 p.m. Call 488-3861.
- St. Anthony Park Block Nurse Program Board of Directors meeting, St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church library, 7 p.m.

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

30 Thursday
- "Journal your way to Healing" by Jean Kirshe, St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ, 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Items for the April Community Calendar must be submitted to the Bugle office by 5 p.m., Friday, March 17.

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Family concert with a global beat

Music in the Parks' forthcoming family concert spotlights Speaking in Tongues, folk music from a new world, on Friday, March 30, 6:15 and 7:30 p.m., at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, Carter at Chelmsford avenues. With infectious camaraderie, four musicians from four countries - master drummer Souah Messiah of Ghana, bassist Enrique Toussaint of Mexico, multi-instrumentalist Marc Anderson of the USA, and Gao Hong of China — create global music using a pastiche of instruments. Since space is limited, please make advance reservations. Tickets cost $5 for adults and children, $6 at the door. For family concert tickets please call 645-5699. Tickets are also sold at the Bibebot (646-5651) and Micawber's Bookstore (646-5906).

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292-9844
Elaine Heinz
Elaine B. Heinz died on December 13 at age 75. She was a resident ofLyngblomen.
She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert. Survivors include daughter, Katherine Howard; son, James Heinz; five grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and a sister, Nancy Memth.

George Hogan
Lyngblomen Care Center neighbor George W. Hogan, age 80, died on December 30. Mr. Hogan was a parishioner at the Church of the Holy Childhood.
Preceded in death by a brother, Emery; he is survived by his wife, Ruby; brother, Malachi; sister, Jane Mingis; and several nieces and nephews.

Frederick Kaiser
Frederick K. Kaiser, age 66, died on January 7. He was a longtime administrator in the St. Paul Public Schools and served as principal at Como Park, Central, and Johnson. He began his teaching career at age 22, when he became a substitute math and physics teacher.
In 1989, Fred Kaiser took over the St. Paul Public School Athletic Director's position. He retired from there in 1993, after 37 years in education.
He was a graduate of Harding High School, the University of Minnesota, and the University of St. Thomas. He was an avid golfer, skier, cyclist, and snowboarder.
He is survived by his wife, Sue; children, Chris Silver, Karen Murray, and Kathy; six grandchildren; his mother, Hedwig; and nine brothers and sisters.

Mabel Martin
Lyngblomen Care Center resident Mabel P. Martin died on December 13 at the age of 99.
She was preceded in death by her husband, William, and her son, Keith. Survivors include several nieces and nephews.

Harold Marty
St. Anthony Park neighbor Harold E. Marty died on January 8 at the age of 91.
Mr. Marty was preceded in death by his wife, Dorothy; daughter, Theresa; brother, Anton; Art, and Herman, and sisters, Anna Boldt and Elsie Smart. Survivors include a sister, Grace Christopherson; two daughters, Yvonne McKechnie and Carol Christopherson; a son, Lawrence; 13 grandchildren; and 30 great-grandchildren.

The 2000 Greater Midway
Home & Garden Show
Bandana Square
Saturday, March 18th
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Growing Great Neighborhoods™
FREE Parking, Admission & Workshops
Open to the Public Welcome
Over 50 Exhibitors
Great Home Improvement and Landscaping ideas
Look for this great workshop
"Show Me the Money!"—over $17 million available to residents of St. Anthony Park, North End, Hamline-Midway and Midway Park neighborhoods; attend this important workshop to find out how you can take advantage of our interest-free money!
Sponsored by

Mildred Swenson
Lyngblomen Care Center resident Mildred C. Swenson died on December 11 at the age of 102.
Preceded in death by brothers and sisters, she is survived by nieces and nephews.

Compiled by Ann Bulger
LIFE IN THE CHURCH: COME AND SHARE

**BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH**
Skillman at Cleveland in Roseville. 651-631-0211
Bethany Baptist Meeting Worship 10:45 am
Sunday School 9:30 am
Pastor Bruce Peterson
Filipino-American Worship 11 am
Pastor Sonny Olyum

**COMO PARK LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA**
1316 Howe Ave. W. 651-646-7727 Handicapped accessible
CPI, Contact Minister 651-646-1897
Sunday Schedule (Nursery Provided)
Rides available for 11 am worship (Call the church office before noon on Friday for rides)
8 am & 11 am Traditional Worship (Communion 1st and 3rd Sundays)
9 am Children's & Family Worship (Communion 1st and 3rd Sundays)
10 am Sunday School, Youth and Adult Forums
"Life Support" Contemporary Worship
Every other Sunday, March 4th and 18, 9:30 pm - Nursery provided
March 8 - Ash Wednesday Services, 10 am & 7 pm
March 15, 22, 29 - Midweek Lenten Services, 10 am & 7 pm
Pastors: Wally Obinger and Mag Sund
Directors of Youth and Family Ministry: Andrea and Dave Wollin
Director of Music Ministry: Thomas Ferry

**CORPUS CHRISTI CATHOLIC CHURCH**
2113 N. Fairview at County Road B. 651-639-8888
Meaningful liturgies in a new worship space.
A welcoming community. Handicapped accessible.
Saturday Mass: 5 pm
Sunday Mass: 8:30 and 10:30 am
Lenten Schedule
Ash Wednesday, March 8
7:30 am Celebration of the Eucharist and Distribution of Ashes
12 Noon and 7 pm Celebration of the Word and Distribution of Ashes
The Way of the Cross
7 pm Celebration of Reconciliation
7 pm Wednesdays, March 22
7 pm Passion Sunday, April 16

**EMANUEL MENNONITE CHURCH**
MEETING AT THE CHAPEL OF THE CROSS, LUTHER SEMINARY
1501 Fulham St. (Northwest corner of 37th & I-35W)
Sunday Service: 9:30 am
Sunday School for all ages at 11 am
Nursery care provided
Pastor Matthew Snover 651-766-9739

**MOUNT OLIVE EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH**
(A WELS Congregation)
"THE CHURCH WITH A SMILE"
Handicapped-accessible. Wheelchair available.
1640 Almond at Pascal. 651-645-2225
Sunday Worship: 9 am
Sunday School and Adult Bible Class: 10:30 am

**PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**
SUDDENLY BEING INVITED TO A LUTHERAN CHURCH
1744 Walnut at Jane. 1 block north of LRNTAP. 651-644-5440.
Sunday School: 10:30 am, Holy Communion: 1st & 3rd Sundays
Sunday School and Adult Education: 9:15 am
Tuesday Bible Study: 10 am
Pastor Dave Flathman

**ROSE HILL ALLIANCE CHURCH**
Rosecliff at Cleveland. 651-631-0173
Sunday English Worship: 9:30 am, Japanese Worship: 9:15 am
Sunday School 11 am, Jr. Connection 9:00 am
continued at next column

Wednesday Night, Women's American Culture Class 10:00 pm
Sister - Ms.
Wednesdays: J - Hi and S - Hi Group 6:45 pm
Awaana: 6:45 pm

**ST. ANTHONY PARK LUTHERAN**
Central Lutheran Place. Handicapped accessible. 651-645-0371
Pastors Paul Olenick and Randy Lindberg
During our remodeling, we are holding services and Sunday school in Luther Seminary's Chapel of the Incarnation at the corner of Hennepin in E-Block.
Sunday School/Education: 9:15 - 9:55 am
Worship: 10:00 am (one service only)
Lenten Schedule
Sop-Suppet begins Ash Wednesday, March 8 - 5:30 pm in Fellowship Hall
7 pm Lenten Service in newly remodeled sanctuary

We look forward to returning to worship services in our newly remodeled sanctuary early to mid-March. Community Church of Peace, 5:30 pm Sundays
Faith Chinese Fellowship, 1:30 pm Sundays
Thank you for your support. The Bugle fund drive!