

The Park Bugle

The
need
for empty
places, pp. 8-9

MARCH 2001 ■ VOLUME 27, NUMBER 9

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

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Puppeteers explore
the theme of freedom
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Local author Wang
Ping chronicles the
ache for beauty
page 6

Murray student does science close to home



Photo by Truman Olson

Traffic sleuth catches Como Ave. drivers red-footed

by Michelle Christianson

If you read Warren Hanson's commentary in the Bugle last year about drivers who run red lights on Como Avenue, you might have thought (as I did) that he's just getting crotchety. Surely, most people are law-abiding citizens who respect the awful power of an automobile and thus follow the rules of the road when it comes to red lights. But Murray seventh-grader Lydia Sorenson was shocked by the number of scofflaws she saw when she did a study at Como and Doswell for her school science project.

"I expected to see maybe 10 people go through the light during the whole study. But 14 people ran the light on the first day alone."

Lydia sat outside and counted cars and drivers for nine days last December. Because she did it for a science project, she was scrupulous about observing at the same times each day (3:15-3:45 and 5:15-5:45 p.m.) and noting the sex and approximate age of each driver. She only counted cars on Como, and she labeled them as going through the light when they entered the intersection on red and did not turn.

Lydia's expectations were shattered on the first day. "I expected to see maybe 10 people go through the light

Lydia Sorenson to page 12

Children's Home Society breaks new ground

St. Anthony Park fixture solidifies neighborhood presence with new building, renovation

by Susan Conner

Children's Home Society of Minnesota, founded in 1889 and a part of St. Anthony Park since 1903, has recently begun a major construction and remodeling project. Work has begun on a new building to replace the existing one on Eustis Avenue and should be concluded by November 2001. In addition, major renovations are planned for CHSM's Como Avenue site during 2002.

These changes have become necessary for two reasons: The Society's program needs for space have grown over the years, and there has been serious deterioration of existing buildings. Repeated flooding

has made almost a third of the space at the Eustis site unusable. Children's Home president and CEO, Donna Walgren King, now has her office in a trailer behind the building, along with other trailers that are used for storage.

As employees continue to work in the current building, it is regularly monitored for air quality. "We are taking every step to ensure that our staff is working in a safe environment," said Kimberly Morgan, director of marketing and public relations.

Children's Home Society has two sites in St. Anthony Park with three buildings, all of which will be changed to some extent. The present facility on Eustis will be replaced with a three-story,

46,000-square-foot building to house administration and financial departments, as well as three adoption programs. In addition, the new building will include a large conference room, several parlors and additional meeting facilities. The design is intended to create an open, welcoming feeling, said Morgan.

The Como Avenue site consists of two buildings. The main one, located at the corner of Como and Commonwealth, was built in 1959. Major renovations are planned for this building in 2002. It will house the Open Adoption Program, Post-adoption Services and CHSM's Crisis Nursery of Ramsey County, which will move from its present location behind the State Capitol. The second, smaller building was part of Park Bank until CHSM purchased and annexed it in 1986. This annexed building has had moisture and mold problems recently, and plans are to remove it and create needed parking space.

From its inception in 1889, Children's Home Society of Minnesota has been "clearly and assertively focused on the needs of children for safe and healthy homes," according to Morgan.

After using three different locations in its very early years, the Society was able to build a new building in 1903 on land in St. Anthony Park that was donated by philanthropist Joseph Elsinger. The new building was called the Jean Martin Brown Receiving Home. An addition was built in 1926. This building is part of the current St. Anthony Park Home, which was itself recently renovated. In 1959 the Society moved to the corner of Como and Commonwealth Avenues—land that was part of the original donation from their benefactor, Mr. Elsinger.

According to "One Life at a Time," a history of the Society written by Kenneth Green, since 1959 CHSM has expanded its original service of "homefinding" into a variety of services, all with the common goal of finding and supporting healthy and safe homes for children. The Society has created quality day care centers and is known as the largest non-profit provider of day care in the state. All of their 19 day care centers also provide parenting education, counseling and health services. Adoption services came

Children's Home Society to page 5

Arbor Day celebration planned

College Park to get new trees and other plantings

by Mary Maguire Lerman

The St. Anthony Park Community Council Tree Trust Committee is looking for volunteers to assist with a special Arbor Day celebration in late April at College Park. This event will be a great time for families, school children, adults and seniors to become better acquainted with the park and its history. Volunteers are being sought to provide music, assist with planting and watering, and help distribute printed materials and refreshments. If you are interested in participating, please call the SAP Community Council at 649-5992. The scheduled date for the Arbor Day celebration at College Park is Tuesday, April 24 with a backup of Thursday, April 26 in case of rain.

The heart of the Arbor Day celebration will be planting 15 bur oaks and five witch hazels in College Park. The oaks are being planted for the next generation to enjoy since many of the neighborhood's current bur oaks are in decline. Witch hazels are smaller, native, under-story trees that will help fill in the woodland gaps left by last fall's removal of buckthorn and mulberry. The witch hazels will provide attractive, yellow, spider-like flowers in October.

Purchase of the plantings has been made possible by a UniTree grant awarded to SAPCC. UniTree money is distributed through the Tree Trust, a program set up to provide trees to neighborhoods adjoining both

campuses of the University of Minnesota. The UniTree grant matches \$300 provided by the St. Anthony Park Garden Club for both tree and native prairie plantings at College Park.

On Arbor Day, in addition to the tree planting, repairs will be made to the upper portion of Suicide Hill on the south side of the park. First, wattles will be constructed from dead buckthorn shrubs and installed on the hillside to stabilize the slope. Next soil will be back-filled between the wattles and then seeded. A straw mulch "erosion blanket" will be installed over the seeded soil. Finally, plugs of native prairie grasses and wildflowers will be planted through the erosion blanket. Prairie wildflowers and grasses root deeply and will help stabilize this area that has badly eroded in recent years by ferocious winter sliders.

This event will be a great time for families, school children, adults and seniors to become better acquainted with the park and its history.

Further information on Arbor Day will be relayed in the April issue of the Bugle. Please consider volunteering for this neighborhood event. Teachers are especially encouraged to consider involving some of their students. ■

Como neighbors sound off on bus route changes

by Jane McClure

Metro Transit's new service plans for part of St. Paul and northern suburbs are moving ahead despite a last-minute effort by some Como Park neighbors to keep part of Route 3A off Gateway Drive. Park neighbors said the changes are needed to keep buses off a street that runs next to walking and bike trails. But Metro Transit officials and representatives of other neighborhoods said the changes would have negatively affected St. Anthony Park, Southeast Como and other communities.

The Jan. 24 Metropolitan Council vote affects 24 bus routes in 31 communities, including St. Paul and several northern suburbs. Route changes go into effect in June. While Metro Transit and St. Paul city staff have indicated they would be willing to look at future changes to Route 3A, some neighbors question whether that will happen. Several people said they will monitor the bus route and continue to seek changes.

"Everything's not going to fit in the same little spot," said Como Park neighbor David Erickson. He noted the city wants to redo the trails around Lake Como. Yet having the bus route nearby could limit options to improve the trails and make drainage improvements around the lake.

At issue is part of new Route 3A, which would run 84 buses a day on Gateway Drive. Neighbors said that puts buses 18 inches from Como Lake's bicycle and pedestrian paths and creates a potential safety problem. The proximity of bus exhaust, pollution to the lake, impact of vibrations on a large retaining wall nearby, and pedestrians and bicyclists trying to cross Gateway Drive in the face of more bus traffic are among issues neighbors cited.

Alternatives developed in late December and January by neighborhood residents were rejected by Metro Transit during a

Bus route changes to page 16

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Falcon Heights

Harvest States building sold

The Harvest States building, located on the corner of Larpenteur and Snelling Avenues, has been purchased by Technology and Information Educational Services (TIES), a non-profit technology consortium owned and governed by 36 Minnesota school districts.

TIES's mission is to provide leadership in the application of technology in education through support services, training, consulting, processing, and research and development so that school districts can enhance student learning and achieve cost-effective management.

The consortium offers comprehensive technology solutions to schools and educators. It provides services in technical support, Internet and networking services, student and finance software applications, and technology staff development, as well as customized services on a request basis. Technology conferences, audits, planning and training; a graduate-level

technology certificate program; and an M.A. in technology are also available. This summer TIES will host an open house for the public.

—Susan Conner

Lauderdale

Garage sale coming up

The Lauderdale Garage Sale will take place in May. Residents should watch for further information.

—S.C.

St. Anthony Park

Street lamp compromise reached

The District Council supported the compromise between the Preserve Our Historic Lighting Group and the St. Paul Public Works Traffic Engineering-Lighting Division. Under this compromise the city will install old-design historic lantern lights on the following streets, which now have wood-pole lighting: Ludlow, Knapp Street, Knapp

Place, Atty, and the intersection of Carter, Gordon Street and Gordon Place. Redesignated historic lantern lights will be installed on the following streets, which currently have wood-pole lighting: Carter (Gordon Place to Eustis), Commonwealth (Gordon to Eustis), Hillside (Gordon to Eustis), Hillside Court, and Eustis (Carter to Hillside). In the future, when lighting is replaced in RSVP areas, the city will inform neighbors of these options.

—S.C.

Council revises bylaws

The Community Council has approved revisions of its bylaws. Changes include the membership of the election committee, absentee ballots, citizenship requirements for delegates, and the acceptance of write-in candidates. Copies of the bylaws are available in the council office at 490 Cromwell.

—S.C.

Task force recommendations forwarded

The Franklin Emerald Task Force recommendations, with

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amendments, have been passed and sent on to the City Planning Commission. The amendments concerned traffic issues that may arise with new development. Planners were asked to ensure that St. Paul and Minneapolis work together to plan for predicted traffic changes.

—S.C.

St. Paul

Problem property owners to face fines

Problem property owners face fines for repeated police calls to their buildings, as a result of ordinance changes unanimously adopted Jan. 10 by the St. Paul City Council. The council amended its ordinance for "excessive consumption of police services" following a Jan. 3 public hearing.

The original ordinance was approved by the City Council more than five years ago, with a citywide base of support that included area neighborhoods. In neighborhoods near college campuses, the ordinance was seen as a way to crack down on landlords whose properties are college party houses. In other neighborhoods, the ordinance was viewed as a way to penalize landlords whose tenants sell illegal drugs or engage in prostitution. Its intent was to collect costs of law enforcement from persons who own nuisance properties.

The Minnesota Multi-Family Housing Association and the St. Paul Association of Responsible Landlords opposed the proposed ordinance changes, saying they would place an additional financial burden on landlords and provide a

disincentive for landlords to call police themselves. But police supported the ordinance changes. Dan Cermak of the St. Paul Police Department said the changes would make it easier for police to deal with problem property owners.

—Jane McClure

Ramsey County

Legislators target property taxes

The Ramsey County Legislative Delegation will emphasize reducing Ramsey County property taxes during the current legislative session, according to Rep. Alice Hausman, co-chair of the 32-member delegation.

Hausman noted that the state has pulled back from

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EDITORIAL

And all the children are above average

Is the Twin Cities a good place to be a kid?

Many things might be considered in an attempt to answer that question: infant mortality rates, child care facilities, schools, health care, athletic programs, arts opportunities.

A cursory glance suggests that we fare pretty well. St. Paul has two top-notch museums that cater to young people—the Children's Museum and the Science Museum. It also boasts the highly regarded Children's Hospital, and Minneapolis is home to the justly acclaimed Children's Theater. In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theater is one of many Twin Cities-area arts organizations that cooperate with schools through artists-in-residence programs. Lisa Steinmann's account in this issue describes HOTB's recent successful residency at St. Anthony Park Elementary.

Closer to home for Bugle readers, Children's Home Society, featured in Susan Conner's front-page article, has nearly a century-long history in St. Anthony Park as a resource for helping provide safe and healthy homes for children. The Booth-Brown House on Como Avenue provides shelter and treatment for 11-17-year-old adolescents.

But perhaps the best way to judge the hospitableness of our area for kids is to evaluate the kind of children we produce. How many Lydia Sorensens are in our midst? Lydia's 7th-grade science fair project, described in Michelle Christianson's front-page article, is an example of a practical study that could serve as a model for researchers everywhere. Lydia observed a problem in her own neighborhood, wondered how widespread it was, made some educated guesses, and then set out to carefully collect data. In the process she learned some things that have implications for all of us who live in this area.

In trying to justify public support for child care or schools, we're quick to characterize today's children as tomorrow's leaders. That's a valid viewpoint but it can be a limiting one, for it implies that what youth have to offer has yet to be realized. In truth, young people have much to offer right now, as anyone who watched St. Anthony Park Elementary's "Freedom Fest" on Feb. 23 can attest.

Two famous men who never had children are often quoted on the subject of what it means to be a child. They offer sharply contrasting perspectives. The Apostle Paul had this to say in First Corinthians: "When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I reasoned as a child. But when I became a man, I put away childish things."

Jesus had a different view. In a story recounted by Matthew, Mark and Luke, children are brought to Jesus for his blessing. His disciples, perhaps assuming that Jesus does not want to be bothered with children, rebuke those who had brought them. Jesus in turn rebukes his disciples: "Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. Truly I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it." ■

Next issue March 30**Deadlines:**

Display ads March 14
News & classifieds March 16

The Park Bugle

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

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Letters

College Park fund drive nears goal

Our community project on the College Park tennis and basketball courts has progressed well. As you may recall, we received a neighborhood matching grant from the STAR Board for \$35,000. In our fund-raising efforts from the St. Anthony Park community, about \$31,000 has been contributed in grants, direct contributions and in-kind gifts or pledges, for which our task force and the St. Anthony Park Community Council are grateful.

However, in order to fully match and receive all of the STAR matching funds, we need to raise another \$4,000. Therefore, if you have not yet given your tax-deductible contribution to the Community Council for this project, now is the time. Of course, the contribution will be matched by STAR funds up to the amount specified above. You can send your check to the St. Anthony Park Community Council, 890 Cromwell Ave., St. Paul, MN 55114, with a memo that it is for the College Park courts.

Our special task force of the Community Council continues to work on the project. We have begun working with John Wirka and his Parks and Recreation staff on the design of the courts to fully use the space available and to make it as functional as possible for our youth and adults. In April we plan to hold a community meeting, when the plans will be presented.

Our thanks to all of you



who have given so generously to the College Park courts project. Let's make it a super success by fully matching the STAR grant and getting the new courts in place by early summer.

If you have questions about the project, call Bob at 644-9716.

*Bob Munson, Chair
College Park Task Force*

A belated thank you to the neighborhood

The holiday season is now behind us; only the memories linger. However, there is still time to give thanks to those who have helped during that time. On behalf of the St. Anthony Park Association board, I would like to thank everyone who attended the holiday dinner on Tuesday, Dec. 12, at the United Methodist Church. It was a cold night and our numbers were fewer, but it was warm inside with all our friends and a wonderful meal. Thanks to Sandee Kelsey and David Lee, who worked so hard in preparing it.

We would also like to thank Birna Krugler, a St. Anthony Park neighbor, for her music before dinner; Bill Hammond, from Roseville, for his music during dinner; and Bill Bromaghim, also a neighbor, for emceeing and concluding the evening by

reading a book from the St. Anthony Park Elementary School library.

As in the past, this dinner was a fund raiser for a neighborhood activity—this time, the St. Anthony Park Elementary School library. People at the dinner contributed to a fund to buy a set of the World Book Encyclopedia and several other reference sets. Guests had an opportunity to purchase an encyclopedia volume of their choice and have their donation acknowledged inside the jacket cover.

If you didn't have a chance to contribute that evening but are interested in making a donation, it will be cheerfully accepted. A World Book set costs approximately \$1400; the reference sets are about \$300 each. Individual volumes of the set are still available for your choosing. You may contribute by sending a check made out to SAPSA (St. Anthony Park Student Association) to Brenda, Hansen, St. Anthony Park Elementary School Library, 2180 Knapp St., St. Paul, MN 55108-1999. (For more information, call Cindy Anderson, 649-0730.)

Next year we are going to try a different day and time for the holiday dinner, possibly a Saturday holiday brunch or luncheon. We will keep you posted. Any one having ideas or suggestions can contact me at 647-0262 or Cindy Anderson at 649-0730.

*Ron Dufault, President
St. Anthony Park Association*

City Files . . . from page 3

funding state-mandated services such as special education and the court system. Ramsey County legislators want such services to receive adequate funding, but they hope tax reform measures being considered in this session will result in state revenues being

used to support these programs.

According to Hausman, Minnesota relies disproportionately on property taxes to fund child welfare and transportation services, compared to other states.

"About 54 percent of child welfare services in Minnesota are

funded by local property taxes, compared to a national average of only 9 percent," she said.

"We also want to see less reliance on property taxes to help pay for metro bus services. Currently over \$70 million of local property taxes in the metro area help to pay for these services."

—Dave Healy

With the contributions from those listed below, our fund drive has collected \$14,992.

Our thanks to these contributors and past contributors who have helped us approach our goal of \$21,000.

*Thanks, readers, for contributing to the Bugle fund drive.
Your contributions help sustain us.*

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Children's Home Society . . . from page 1

to include international adoptions as well as the adoption of older children. They developed an area of specialty—post-adoptive services—including counseling, workshops, and presentations for adoptees, birth mothers and adoptive parents. More recently they have begun working with open adoptions.

short-term day care. In 1986 CHSM purchased and annexed the Park Bank building, located between the main building and the Muffuletta Restaurant. This annex added 7200 square feet to the Society's Como Avenue location. In 1987, in need of space for the housing and administration

and families and with creativity and assertiveness set out to meet those needs. Their leadership has continually been active in professional associations and has influenced state and national legislation. CHSM is seen as a leading provider of child welfare services.

Due to the foresight and the generosity of community members and neighbors for decades, CHSM has been a St. Anthony Park resident for almost 100 years. Plans for the new building on Eustis include areas designated for future expansion, indicating that the organization plans to stay in the neighborhood for years to come.

Residents can look for an illustration of the building and landscaping to appear soon along Eustis Avenue. In June, CHSM will announce a kickoff event for its fundraising project, "Compassion Under Construction."

Residents who are interested in volunteering for Children's Home Society in any capacity should contact Judy Russell at 646-7771. For other information about CHSM's many programs, visit their website at www.chsm.com. Kenneth Green's "One Life at a Time" is available for check-out at the St. Anthony Park Library. ■



Architect's rendering of new CHSM building on Eustis Avenue

This departmental growth required more space, and in 1976 the building was expanded, doubling its size. In 1985, the society responded to the growing awareness of child abuse by creating a system of Children's Home Crisis Nurseries. There are now six of these in Minnesota. The Crisis Nursery includes short-term respite care for the family (this is provided in licensed homes), crisis counseling, referrals to appropriate services and

of 13 different services, CHSM acquired the Group Health (Health Partners) building located on the west side of Eustis Avenue and on the north side of Como. At that time they acquired the building and 3.2 acres to allow for future needs.

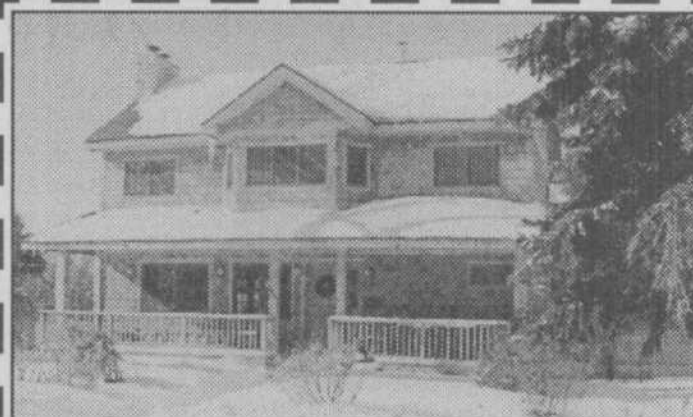
It seems that the future is now. Fundraising has begun, and now so has construction. For 112 years, said Morgan, CHSM has used a volunteer-driven, community-based model to actively identify needs of children

CHSM

TAVERN

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St. Anthony Park Community Council

NEWS

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

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

Office: 890 Cromwell, St. Paul, MN 55114 ■ 649-5992 ■ district12@ci.stpaul.mn.us
Executive Director: Melissa Mathews

Members: Bob Arndorfer, Christopher Causey, Ron Dufault, Sherman Eagles, Karlyn Eckman, Ron Edlund, Suzanne Fantle, Suzanne Garfield, Terrence Gockman, Rose Gregoire, Anthony Harvath, Jay Johnson, Bruce Kimmel, Deborah Kuehl, Alice Magnuson, Bill Miller, Sueann Olson, Connie Powell, and Robert Straughn

On April 11, 2001, SAPCC will hold our 28th consecutive election.

Neighbors are invited to run for a delegate position on the Council.

We are looking for people 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 on issues affecting you!

Call Melissa at 649-5992 if you have questions about serving on the Council. Please use the filing statement in this ad or call for one to be sent to you.

Please return the filing statement to the SAPCC office, 890 Cromwell Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55114, by March 13th 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, 2001 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 or 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 peexriences. Please include a recent photograph of yourself (optional) to be published in the *Park Bugle* and/or pre-election flyer. **Turn in your filing statement to the St. Anthony Park Community Council, 890 Cromwell Avenue, by March 13, 2001, no later than 5 p.m. Call 649-5992 if you have questions.**



Many thanks, Bob Arndorfer, for your excellent service and dedication to the community!

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St. Anthony Park author stays on her toesby **Judy Woodward**

When Wang Ping was nine years old, she wore a size six shoe. What might have been, in the life of an American girl, an ordinary body measurement—a numerical fact in no way worthy of comment or attention—was for her a source of secret shame and endless preoccupation.

In that, she was entirely in step with her times and her culture.

Wang, who follows Chinese custom in placing her surname before her given name, grew up in the Red Guard era of Communist China during the 1960s. Her society was reeling from the bruising clash of deeply traditional cultural values and an official ideology determined to smash all tradition in the name of eternal, ongoing revolution. It was a struggle that played itself out in every aspect of life—even one so seemingly unrelated to political doctrine as the shape of a woman's foot.

Footbinding, the age-old practice of crushing and permanently reshaping a girl's foot into a three-inch object of erotic desire and practical inutility, was officially forbidden by the Communist regime. The "lotus bud" feet of Chinese grandmothers were deemed gross and deformed, both in Wang's childish eyes and by society at large.

And yet.

And yet, it takes more than official pronouncements to alter the aesthetic values and erotic longings of a culture. "Big feet were a societal preoccupation," remembers Wang, "and small feet



Photo by Lori E. Hamilton

were prized. As a 9-year-old, I tried to wear tight shoes. I wanted small feet, and I didn't know why."

Wang, who now lives in St. Anthony Park, eventually grew into her feet, which remain a slim and elegant size six. But she never outgrew her fascination with the phenomenon of footbinding and the intersection of idealized feminine beauty and ritualized physical violation that bound feet represent.

Last year, her book "Aching for Beauty" was published by the University of Minnesota Press. An account of the cultural and literary traditions surrounding footbinding, it grew out of her Ph.D. thesis and transformed its creator into something of a local literary sensation.

Wang, now 43 and the mother of two preschool boys, had previously published poetry and a novel. Nothing in her earlier experience had prepared her for the amount of attention "Aching for Beauty" would attract. Wang, who teaches creative writing at Macalester, seems unfazed by

the spotlight, however.

Maybe that's because her own life had given her a taste for the remarkable, even before she became well known.

As a teenager, she endured years of unpaid "cultural reeducation" in the Chinese countryside before finally realizing her ambition to study English abroad. When she arrived in New York in 1985, she was limited in funds, in language, in everything but her determination to create a new existence for herself. Of her early struggles, Wang comments dryly, "People who have survived the Cultural Revolution become extremely resourceful."

She says that learning to write in English offered her a kind of liberation. "I started writing poetry in both languages," she explains, "but my English poetry is much more direct and honest. When I write in English, I don't have the prohibition of the mother tongue." She mimes someone shaking an admonishing maternal finger. "A language is a new window. It opens a new

Wang Ping to page 16



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SCHOOL NEWS

Puppets invade St. Anthony Park

by Lisa Steinmann

"Freedom means when nobody is bossing me around," states Houston Deforrest Young as he dips his paint brush into red tempera paint and covers a life-size self-portrait in polka dots. Across the room, fellow second grader Erik Sateren explains why the figure he's painting is completely green: "I just wanted green. It's my favorite color and the teeth are showing." He adds with a broad smile, "because he's mad at something."

Freedom and self-expression are the themes that inspired a project at St. Anthony Park Elementary School last month. Puppeteers and performing artists with Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theater, in collaboration with school staff and parents, led students in activities that culminated in a pageant performed for the entire school on Feb. 23. The Freedom Pageant involved puppets, ranging from life-size to 12 feet tall, and props created by the students that they animated through mime.

In the Heart of the Beast is one of a handful of professional puppet companies in the United States. It has been based in Minneapolis for over 25 years and is known for its participation in the annual May Day Parade to Powderhorn Park and for its theater on Lake Street. The theater's mission combines

puppet and mask arts with service to the community. It has been conducting artist-in-the-schools residencies, such as the one at St. Anthony Park Elementary, for several years.

HOTB artists Laurie Witzkowski, Lisa Abbatomaro and Arra Ross described their interaction with the students at St. Anthony Park as "ensemble work." Their goal was to portray

placed on the floor and students laid down in poses that were then traced. Greta Schrader described her pose this way: "Freedom means jumping, so I posed like a jump."

Next students painted their figures, both sides, any way they wanted. Patience Zalenga painted her figure green and then covered it in daisy-like flowers. Innovative brush work was encouraged, as

Jennifer Rowley discovered when she gave her paintbrush a shake.

"I just thought, well maybe it needs some splatters. I tried it and I thought, cool!" On pageant day the figures would come together as parts of a dancing dragon.

Fourth graders Breanna Burnett and Linnia Holman were busy crumpling newspapers and squeezing them into round shapes and taping them to a box. They

explained that their boxes would become buffalo heads after papier-mâché and paint were added. Their class had decided to create a herd of "buffalo dragons" as a symbol of freedom. Linnia added excitedly, "I've never done anything like this before!"

The best part of the creative process for Megan Thrasher, a sixth grader, was the mask making. "We started with clay to make a mold and covered it with four layers of papier-mâché and



Students Sonia Vaageness, Emily Kidd and Chris Osborn consult with HOTB's Lisa Abbatomaro

issues, events and values that were important to the students. The process began with figuring out the story to be told, creating the images and then working out the movement.

As Witzkowski explained, "It's different from traditional theater that's scripted. It's a particular kind of theater, like cooking from scratch. First you ask 'What's in the cupboards today?'"

For the second graders, their puppet recipe started with cardboard. Large pieces were

Heart of the Beast to page 12

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BY DAVE HEALY

The Minnesota State Fairgrounds occupies 360 acres in Falcon Heights, which represents 25% of that municipality's total area. Minnesota's fair draws 1.7 million people annually, making it the largest 12-day fair in North America. For those 12 days each summer, the Fairgrounds is the busiest place in Minnesota. Last year on Sept. 2, a total of 207,787 people passed through the turnstiles. A month later, though, the population of the Fairgrounds probably numbered in the dozens rather than the thousands. Except for occasional events throughout the off-season, most of the Fairground's sprawling acres and many of its buildings are vacant much of the year.

Thirteen years ago Minnesotan Paul Gruchow wrote a book titled "The Necessity of Empty Places." His focus was on the natural world—the largely unpopulated prairies and deserts and buttes and badlands of the American Northwest. We need such empty places, said Gruchow, to remind us of who we are and what our place is in the world.

The Necessity

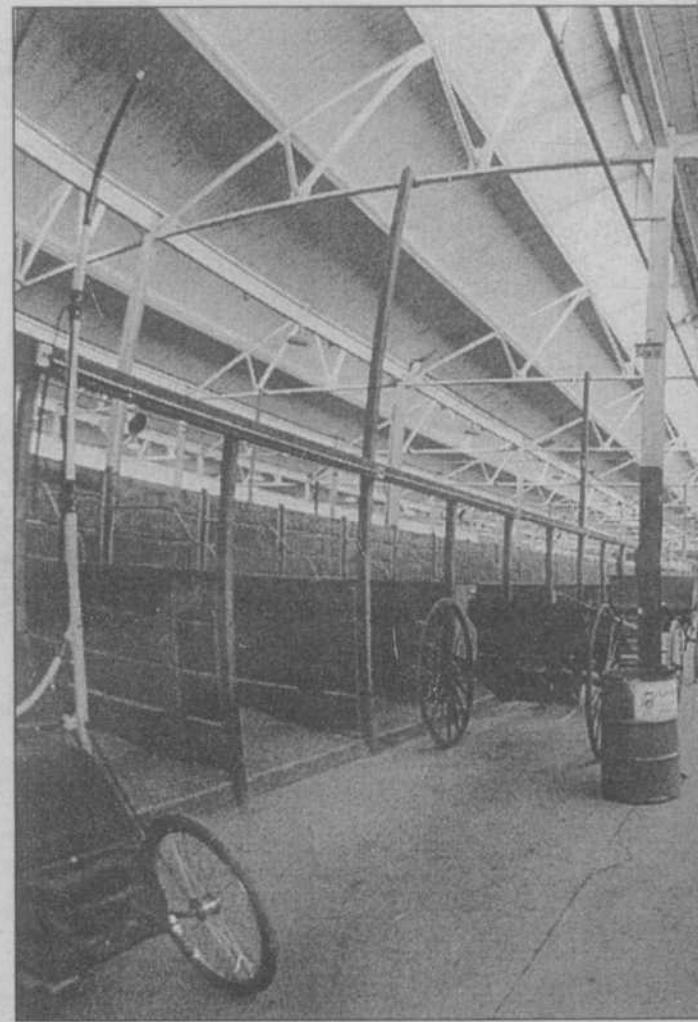
But what of empty places in the "built environment"? What of the edifices we construct for specific but limited purposes that sit empty most of the time? What of fairgrounds and football stadiums and race tracks and amphitheaters and concert halls and cathedrals—and the parking lots that often surround them?

Our empty places are not a uniquely American invention, nor even a modern one. Rome had its Coliseum and Basilica. But among industrialized nations, America has been distinctive for its sense of spaciousness and expansiveness and its casual attitude toward efficiency. We have been able to afford empty places because we could always grow, annex, move. We are heirs of elbow-room-loving Daniel Boone, who, after retreating steadily westward from Kentucky to Tennessee to Missouri, is said to have complained that he had been at his new digs for only two years when someone had the effrontery to settle within a hundred miles of him.

Our national pastime is baseball, whose geography reflects our expansionist mindset. The baseball field opens up from a point produced by the convergence of two perpendicular lines to a potentially limitless expanse, for which the outfield fence serves as an artificial boundary, just as the shifting frontier served for the original pioneers. On the makeshift field of my youth, adjacent to what was then called the Green Parking Lot at the State Fairgrounds, there was no fence at all in left field, and a hit that got by or over the left fielder and made it to the blacktop might roll forever.

Baseball's geography reflects another American value:

individuality. While the dimensions are standardized (the distance from of third base and from the back base is specified as 127 feet, 3 inches), the right- and left-field fences are at the same distance from home plate, known by the peculiarity of their placement. In left, Yankee Stadium's "short infamous 'baggie'."



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of Empty Places

of the infield are meticulously outside of first base to the outside some plate to the middle of second (8 inches), outfields are idiosyncratic. not be the same height or the particular ball parks are often nces: Fenway Park's Green Monster "h" in right, the Metrodome's

But our individualism transcends geographical quirkiness. It is also evidenced by the sheer number of structures we build. Currently the Twins and Vikings and football Gophers share a single facility: the Metrodome. But none of the three teams is satisfied with that arrangement. Each would much prefer to have its own stadium, a luxury both the Twins and Gophers previously enjoyed. The Gophers' Memorial Stadium, once located at the corner of University and Washington Avenues in Minneapolis, could seat 57,000 fans. It was used for five or six Saturday afternoons a year.

When professional hockey returned to Minnesota after an 8-year hiatus, the building that once housed the state's previous NHL entry had fallen to the wrecking ball. Where would the team play? The Target Center seemed like a serviceable venue, but it's in Minneapolis. St. Paul wanted its own arena—hence, the recently completed Excel Energy Center.

Nor is the desire to have a room of one's own confined to the realm of sports. Many churches sit empty for most of the week, yet instances of congregations sharing space are rare and often are perceived as temporary arrangements—until the smaller group can afford to put up its own building. Any orchestra that can build its own hall rather than using someone else's space. Many people want a house with a formal dining room, which may be actually dined in only occasionally. And how many large homes have a well-furnished living

room in which no one ever lives?

Looking at our residential architecture, one might conclude that Americans hate crowds, but of course that's not true at all. Though we value space and privacy, we also love being in a throng and feeling pressed in. The best arena or church or hall is one that's just big enough. Attending a game or a worship service or a concert with too many empty seats usually makes the experience less enjoyable than it would be in a full house. We don't want to stand in line too long for a ride, but walking through the State Fair's mostly empty Midway at 9 in the morning isn't very appealing either.

When James Joyce wanted to convey the disillusionment of young love, he placed the narrator of his short story "Araby" at a bazaar just before closing. "Nearly all the stalls were closed and the greater part of the hall was in darkness. I recognized a silence like that which pervades a church after a service."

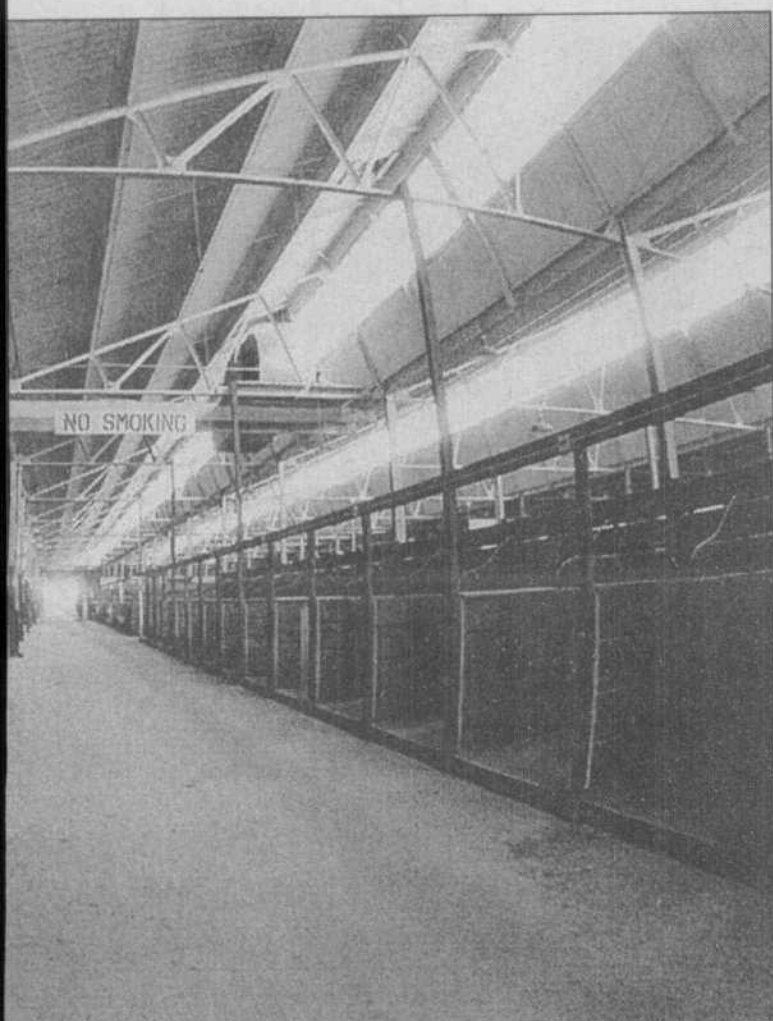
As Joyce's "Araby" suggests, while empty places can be unsettling or depressing, there is also something potentially fascinating and strangely calming about being alone in a place designed for crowds, a feeling quite different from being alone in the wilderness. Most of us enjoy that feeling only on rare occasions. Shooting baskets in an empty gym. Praying in a vacant church. Walking through a deserted school, factory or mall. In places made for presence, absence is all the more powerful.

The dramatic potential of empty places is exploited in the current movie "Finding Forrester." Sean Connery plays William Forrester, a reclusive writer who becomes a grudging mentor to an inner-city black high school student. As their friendship slowly develops, the young protégé tries to draw Forrester out of his shell. A turning point in this process occurs one night when the two go to a deserted Yankee Stadium. Standing on the field in "the house that Ruth built," Forrester gazes at the empty seats and reflects on the experiences of his youth and on his brother, who died in the war. He leaves the stadium a changed man.

In an increasingly crowded world, empty places increasingly seem like a luxury. And yet if we want to construct places where we can come together, perhaps we must be willing to let those places lie vacant after we disband.

In August, the State Fairgrounds will once again teem with activity. For now, though, their vacancy is an ongoing reminder of the ebb and flow of life, the ceaseless drama of assembling and dispersing, of coming and going, of presence and absence. ■

Photos by Truman Olson



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Town Meeting

Senate District 66 legislators Senator Ellen Anderson and Representatives Tom Osthoff and Alice Hausman will hold a town meeting this month to solicit input from area citizens about issues coming up at the Legislature.

The meeting will be held Mar. 10 from 10 a.m.-noon in the lower-level community room at the Como Park Pavilion, on Lexington Avenue next to Como Lake.

The legislative session began Jan. 3, and talks about how to allocate the \$929 million surplus are underway.

Senate District 66 includes St. Anthony Park, Como, Midway, the North End and parts of the East Side and Frogtown. For more information on the town meeting, contact Senator Anderson at 296-5537.

Arts events

The Community Gallery at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church features its third annual Celebration of Community Art Show from Mar. 4-31. An opening reception will be held Sun. evening, Mar. 4 from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Judges for the show are Harold and Marge Alexander, internationally renowned artists and long-time residents of the St. Paul area.

The Community Gallery is located at 2136 Carter Avenue in the church undercroft and is open Mon.-Fri. from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. and Sun. from 8-11:30 a.m. For more information, call Kathy at 777-0841.

Music in the Park Series

presents two concerts during March. On Sun., Mar. 4 at 4 p.m., violinist Chee-Yun and harpist Yolanda Kondonassis will perform at St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ, 2129 Commonwealth Avenue.

Their program will combine traditional chamber works by Saint-Saëns, Ravel and Ibert, as

e t c .

well as compositions by contemporary composers such as Sergiu Natra and Bernard Andres. For ticket information, call 645-5699.

The second of Music in the Park's family concerts takes place Fri., Mar. 23 at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 2136 Carter Avenue. Performances are at 6:15 and 7:30 p.m.

The concert features musicians Ross Sutter and Laura MacKenzie as well as puppeteer Margo McCreary. The audience will have an opportunity to join in singing, playing and dancing.

Tickets are \$5 in advance or \$6 at the door and are available at Micawber's and Bibelot or by calling 645-5699.



Ross Sutter

A Little Light Music, St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church's in-house concert series, continues with a performance by Three Men and a Banjo (Warren Hanson, David Ryan Moberg and Blaine Thrasher) on Sun., Mar. 11 at 4 p.m. at the church, 2323 Como Avenue.

One other concert is scheduled for March. On the 18th at 4 p.m., mezzo-soprano KrisAnne Weiss will sing her Master's recital.

Concerts are free, and a nursery is provided. Donations are accepted to defray costs. For more information, contact Mari Espeland at 645-3868.

The Midway Initiative Gallery announces its second exhibition, "Fiore/Larson," which will run from Mar. 9-Apr. 7 at the gallery, 2500 University Avenue West,

Suite C-2.

The show features new work from St. Paul artist Chris Larson and New York artist Rosemarie Fiore.

An opening reception will be held Fri., Mar. 9 from 5-10 p.m.

St. Anthony Park Library

presents another in its series of book talks with University of Minnesota Professor Emeritus Warren Gore. On Mon., Mar. 19 at 7 p.m. Prof. Gore will lead a discussion of Sue Grafton's "O is for Outlaw," part of the popular Kinsey Millhone mystery series.

Volunteers

The St. Paul School District is soliciting volunteers to read with children in St. Paul elementary schools.

Volunteer as little as one hour a week to help combat illiteracy in Minnesota. Volunteers age 55 or older may be eligible for benefits such as transportation reimbursement and supplemental insurance.

For more information, call Jill at 603-1687 or Connie at 603-1685.

Interpretive volunteers are needed for Como Park's Japanese Garden to welcome garden visitors and share information about the symbolism, history and philosophy of Japanese gardens.

No prior knowledge is needed, but a three-part training session is required. Volunteers need to be available for a 3-hour shift either once a week or twice a month between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. during the Japanese Garden's season, May-September.

For more information, call 487-8287 by Apr. 15.

The Raptor Center at the University of Minnesota's St. Paul campus is looking for volunteers to help care for injured birds of prey—eagles, hawks, falcons and owls. Informational orientations will be held on Thurs., Mar. 22 at 6 p.m. and on Sat., Mar. 24 at 9:30 a.m.

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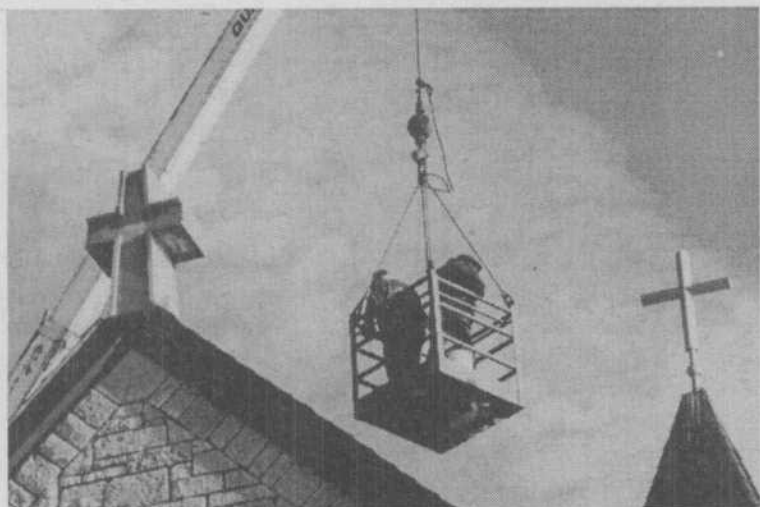
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A cross was recently installed on top of the new tower at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, Como and Luther Place, marking completion of a major renovation project that provides easier access, improved appearance and additional office space. Photo by Dave Hansen

and their children can enjoy free play, art, music and movement activities.

Pre-registration is not necessary. Cost is \$1 per child. Call 487-4378 for more information.

Registration continues for both volleyball and indoor soccer until teams are full at **Langford and South St. Anthony Recreation Centers.**

- Upcoming field trips:
- Fri., Mar. 23, Monticello Community Center for swimming, gym games and wall climbing.
 - Fri., Mar. 30, MSP International Airport tour.

St. Anthony Park Elementary offers school tours through Mar. 18 on Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. and Thursdays at 2 p.m. Call the school at 293-8735.

A Kindergarten Roundup will be held on Tues., Apr. 10 at 6 p.m., when parents and children can meet teachers and see classrooms. SAP Elementary offers both half-day and all-day kindergarten.

Classes

Luther Seminary's Lay School of Theology is for laypeople interested in matters relating to their faith and life.

Spring classes include the following:

- God, Evil and Suffering
- Old Testament Overview with Multimedia
- The Great Writings of Martin Luther
- Reading Each Other's Mail: The Bible, Christians and Jews

The cost is \$40 per course. For questions or to register, contact 641-3416 or kairos@luthersem.edu

Homeward Bound Theatre Company presents "The Ups and Downs of Juggling" on Sat., Mar. 3 from 10 a.m.-noon at Central High School. Adult participants will discover the secrets of multi-object manipulation in this beginning juggling class.

For more information or to register, call 293-8708. ■

feature a talk by Susan Davis Price, author of "Growing Home: Stories of Ethnic Gardening." Two St. Anthony Park gardeners, Judy Wehrwein and Philippe Gallandat, are featured in Price's book.

This joint meeting with the St. Anthony Park Foundation will take place at 7 p.m. in the Board Room of Luther Seminary's Olson Campus Center, 1490 Fulham. The meeting is open to the public.

Children

Preschool children ages 3-6 are invited to join Como Park High School child development careers students at **Castle Preschool** on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9:45-11:30 a.m. for stories, activities and games.

For more information, contact Mary Langlois at 293-880, ext. 1160 or at Mary.Langlois@spps.org.

Preschool story times for children ages 3-5 take place Fridays at 10:30 a.m. at the St. Anthony Park library. Pre-registration is requested. Call 642-0411.

Roseville Area Schools' Early Childhood Family Education Program offers a parent-child class each Wednesday from 11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Central Park Elementary School. Parents

The Befriender program

matches young single mothers with older women who provide friendship, role modeling and support. Befriender mentors complete 17 hours of training and commit to a one-year relationship.

The Befriender program began in 1989 as a collaboration between Children's Home Society of Minnesota and Health Start.

Training will take place Fri., Mar. 30 from 12:30-9 p.m. and Sat., Mar. 31 from 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. at Children's Home Society, 2230 Como Avenue.

For more information or to schedule an interview, call 646-7771.

People

William Cope Moyers has recently joined the board of directors at St. Anthony Park Bank. Moyers is currently president of the Johnson Institute Foundation in St. Paul. Previously he worked at the Hazelden Foundation, CNN, Newsday and the Star Tribune. He also serves on the boards of the Friends of the St. Paul Public Library and the Metropolitan State University Foundation.

Gardening

The St. Anthony Park Garden Club's Mar. 13 meeting will

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Lydia Sorenson . . . from page 1

during the whole study. But 14 people ran that light on the first day alone! That was really scary."

In all, 70 people ran the light during the nine hours Lydia was counting. That number extrapolates to about 217 a month or 2,604 a year. She saw people stop and look for a break in traffic and then go through, sometimes narrowly missing cars from Doswell. A police car even went through with its lights off (obviously not an emergency). In the six minutes she waited to get her picture taken for this article, she saw another five cars go through on red.

When Sorenson was looking for an idea for her project, she visited sites on the Internet for inspiration. There she read about a study of cars that ignore stop signs. That study concluded that 800 people die each year because drivers don't stop for the signs. She wondered if anything like that could happen in St. Anthony

Park and chose the corner of Como and Doswell for her study because she has to cross there every day on her way to school.

Many of Sorenson's assumptions about drivers proved to be wrong. "I thought more young people would run lights because of inexperience, and more women would run lights because they had more places to go than men do." But her results showed that only 14 young people and 5 older people out of the 70 ran lights (the rest were in the middle-aged bracket) and twice as many men as women ran lights. "Maybe it's a macho thing," she said.

Lydia defined young drivers as 15-30, middle-aged as 30-50 and the rest as "older." One of the challenges of her research was that she had only a few seconds to assess each driver.

Sorenson carefully counted the cars (about 715 each day) and the number of lights (32 in a half-hour). In order to do this she

observed outside Ginkgo Coffee Shop for a half-hour at a time in very cold weather. Her friend Rebecca Swanson helped her out some of the time so that she could run around to warm up.

Sorenson's project won third place in her category (human behavior) and will go on to regional competition. One of the judges at the school level was so impressed by her project and analytical abilities that he contacted the Bugle.

Because Sorenson counted cars at Christmas time, she believes the number of violations might have been higher than they would be at other times of the year, so she would like to observe traffic again this month to add to her data. She may even do a continuation of the study next year at Como and Carter, an even busier intersection. Although she has no plans to become a scientist, she is interested in animals and behavioral science. ■

Heart of the Beast . . . from page 7

painted it. You really got to put in your own expression."

Megan described three scenarios planned by her class. The first involved nature images. The students created masks and props in shades of blue to portray a river seeking freedom to move

past a dam. Another group of sixth-grade students, inspired after reading "Daniel's Story," a book about a young concentration camp survivor, acted out the scene of a concentration camp from World War II in which anguished

prisoners are mistreated by cruel guards. According to Megan, "The civil rights movement was also in our minds as important." Another group of students portrayed "blacks not feeling free and whites not treating them very nice."

The art classroom at St. Anthony Park School was happily busy during the residency, not only with students and their teachers but with parent volunteers who did everything from writing the grant that made the residency possible to pushing up their sleeves to assist with paint and clay work. Funding was provided by the St. Anthony Park School Association, the St. Anthony Park Community Foundation and the St. Anthony Park Association. ■

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

1 Thursday

■ Tot Time (for 5-year-olds and younger), South St. Anthony Rec Center (298-5765), 10 a.m.-noon. Every Thursday.

■ Toastmasters (649-5162), U.S. Forest Service, 1992 Folwell Ave., St. Paul Campus, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Every Thursday.

■ St. Anthony Park Community Council Physical Planning Committee, South St. Anthony Rec Center, 890 Cromwell, 6 p.m.

2 Friday

■ Lauderdale and Falcon Heights recycling.

■ Preschool storytime for children ages 3-5, St. Anthony Park Library, 10:30 a.m. Every Friday. Pre-registration preferred (642-0411).

■ Senior Citizen Fun Group (gym, bowling and darts), South St. Anthony Rec Center, 890 Cromwell, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Every Friday.

■ World Day of Prayer, St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ, 9:30 a.m.

3 Saturday

■ Beginning juggling class, Central High School, 10 a.m.-noon. 293-8708

4 Sunday

■ Parish dinner, silent auction and raffle, Church of St. Celia, 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m., \$7. 644-4502.

■ Music in the Park concert with Chee-Yun and Yolanda Kindonasis, St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ, 4 p.m. 644-5699.

■ Celebration of Community Art Show Reception, Community Gallery, St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

5 Monday

■ Como Park recycling.

■ AA, St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church (644-0809), 8 p.m. Every Monday.

■ Boy Scouts, St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ, 7 p.m. Every Monday.

6 Tuesday

■ Tot Time (for 5-year-olds and younger), Langford Park Rec Center (298-5765), 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Every Tuesday.

■ Toastmasters (645-6675), training in effective speaking, Hewlett Packard, 2025 Larpenteur Ave., 7:40-8:40 a.m. Every Tuesday.

■ St. Anthony Park Writers will meet at Black Bear Crossing, 831 Como Ave., 7 p.m. Newcomers are welcome. 646-4343.

7 Wednesday

■ St. Anthony Park recycling

■ Full Council Meeting, St. Anthony Park Community Council, South St. Anthony Rec Center, 890 Cromwell, 7 p.m.

■ Leisure Center for Seniors (603-8946), St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Lunch reservations by Monday. Every Wednesday.

■ Women's Connection, a job networking organization (481-6925), Hubert Humphrey Job Corps Center, 1480 Snelling, Building #1, 8 a.m. Every Wednesday.

■ Parent-child class, Central Park Elementary School, 11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Every Wednesday.

8 Thursday

■ Free blood pressure clinic and health resources by the St. Anthony Park Block Nurse Program, St. Anthony Park Library, 10-11 a.m.

9 Friday

■ Opening reception, "Fiore/Larson," Midway Initiative Gallery, 5-10 p.m.

10 Saturday

■ Langford Teen Night (7th through 9th grade), Langford Park Rec Center (298-5765), 7-10 p.m. Parent permission required. Cost \$3.

■ Senate District 66 Town Meeting, Como Park Pavilion, 10 a.m.-noon.

11 Sunday

■ Three Men and a Banjo, St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, 4 p.m.

12 Monday

■ Falconeers Senior Card Club (488-3361), Falcon Heights City Hall, 2077 Larpenteur Ave., 1-3:30 p.m.

■ Park Press Inc., Park Bugle Board meeting, St. Anthony Park Bank community room, 7 a.m.

13 Tuesday

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

■ St. Anthony Park Garden Club, Board Room, Olson Campus Center, Luther Seminary, 6:30 p.m.

■ Essential nutrition strategies with Dr. Patricia Lawler, Holly House, 6 p.m. 645-6951.

14 Wednesday

■ Falcon Heights City Council, City Hall, 2077 Larpenteur Ave., 7 p.m.

16 Friday

■ Lauderdale and Falcon Heights recycling.

17 Saturday

■ St. Patrick's Day

19 Monday

■ Como Park recycling.

■ Book talk, "O is for Outlaw," St. Anthony Park Library, 7 p.m.

20 Tuesday

■ Como Community Council board meeting, 7 p.m. Bethel Lutheran Church, 670 W. Wheelock Parkway.

21 Wednesday

■ St. Anthony Park recycling

■ Langford Booster Club, Langford Park, 7:30-9 p.m.

23 Friday

■ St. Paul Public Schools, no school for K-12, Elementary Conference Preparation Day, Secondary Staff Training Day.

■ Music in the Park Family Concert with Ross Sutter, Laura MacKenzie and Margo McCleary, St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 6:15 and 7:30 p.m. 645-5699.

24 Saturday

■ FARE For All food distribution and registration at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church (644-8833), 2323 Como Avenue, 8:30-10:30 a.m.

26 Monday

■ St. Anthony Park Block Nurse Program board of directors meeting, St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church library, 7 p.m.

■ Falconeers Senior Card Club (488-3361), Falcon Heights City Hall, 2077 Larpenteur Ave., 1-3:30 p.m.

27 Tuesday

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

28 Wednesday

■ Falcon Heights City Council, City Hall, 2077 Larpenteur Ave., 7 p.m.

■ St. Anthony Park Community Council Housing and Human Services Committee, South St. Anthony Park Rec Center, 890 Cromwell, 5:30 p.m.

■ St. Anthony Park Community Council Environment Committee, South St. Anthony Park Rec Center, 890 Cromwell, 7 p.m.

30 Friday

■ Lauderdale recycling.

■ St. Paul Public Schools, no school K-6, Elementary Conference Day.

■ St. Paul public secondary schools, last day of school before spring break.

Items for the April Community Calendar must be submitted to the Bugle office by 6 p.m., Friday, March 16.



St. Anthony Park Elementary 6th-grader Johnny McDowell shows off his work while parent helper Chris Middlefort looks on. Johnny and other students participated in a project overseen by members of *In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theater*. Photo by Kristal Leebrick

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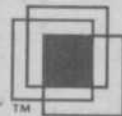
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LIVES LIVED

Ellen M. Baldwin

Ellen M. Baldwin, a resident of Falcon Heights, died on January 4, 2001. She was 91 years of age.

Mrs. Baldwin had formerly lived in Detroit, Michigan, and Enaville, Indiana.

Preceded in death by her husband, Bill Baldwin, she is survived by two daughters, Judy Baldwin and Mary Ellen Abate; a son, Roger Baldwin; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. Services were held in Detroit.

Martha K. Bemlott

Martha K. Bemlott died on January 28, 2001. She was 96 years of age and a resident of Lyngblomsten Care Center. She was born in Thief River Falls.

Mrs. Bemlott was preceded in death by ten siblings; the father of her children, Harold Arneson; her late husband, Henry Bemlott; and a granddaughter. She is survived by a daughter, Betty (Bill) Kreitz; a son, James (Yvonne) Arneson; four grandchildren; ten great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren. A memorial service was held on January 30 at Lyngblomsten Chapel.

Daniel V. Bryan

Daniel V. Bryan, a longtime resident of University Grove, died on November 18, 2000. He was 82 years old.

Mr. Bryan was a professor in humanities and communications at the University of Minnesota. He first came to the Twin Cities in 1946 and lived in Thatcher Hall on the St. Paul Campus in the late 1940s. The Bryans built their home in 1963.

Preceded in death by his wife of 53 years, Bessie Bryan, he is survived by four sons, James (Anthea) Bryan, Ray (Linda) Bryan, Steve (Linda Louise) Bryan, and Jeff (Mary Kay) Bryan; and eight grandchildren. Services were held at Sunset Memorial Park Chapel on November 27, 2000.

Myrtle L. Christesen

Myrtle L. Christesen died on February 1, 2001, at the age of 98. She was a resident of Lyngblomsten Care Center who had lived for many years

on Pascal Street.

Preceded in death by her husband, Emmet Christesen, son, Raymond Christesen, and son-in-law, Robert Anderson, she is survived by her daughter, Joyce (Joseph) Kvaase of Lake Elmo; seven grandchildren, Kristen, David, Judith, Dana, Scott, Dawn and Kim; nine great-grandchildren; and a special friend, Myrtle Rindfleisch. Funeral services took place at Lyngblomsten Chapel on February 5.

Robert L. Dobin

Robert L. Dobin, age 70, died on February 13, 2001. He was a longtime resident of Falcon Heights.

Mr. Dobin was a member of the Rosetown American Legion Post #542, MKWV Chapter 1, and a veteran railroader. He was active in scouting and had served as cubmaster for Pack 48. He was a parishioner at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church.

Survivors include his wife of 45 years, Beverly Rosner Dobin; his son Mark (Dawn) Dobin of Houston, Texas; three granddaughters, Christina, Elizabeth and Kathryn; and a sister-in-law, Ruth Dobin of New Brighton. He was preceded in death by his brother, Earl Dobin. A Mass of Christian Burial was held on February 16 at St. Rose of Lima.

Martha P. Edwards

Martha P. Edwards died on January 26, 2001, her 104th birthday. Born Martha Pauline Weicker, she had lived in St. Paul since 1919, most recently at Lyngblomsten Care Center.

Mrs. Edwards was preceded in death by her husband, Clark Edwards. She is survived by two sons, Clark Edwards, Jr., and his family in Hawaii, and William Edwards and his family in St. Paul; and a sister, Elsa Fry in the state of Washington. A celebration of her life will take place at Lyngblomsten Chapel on May 6.

Leonard Goedert

Leonard Goedert, age 89, died on February 4, 2001. His home was in Falcon Heights.

Mr. Goedert was a member of St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church. Preceded in death by his

wife, Patricia Goedert, and his brother, Frank Goedert, he is survived by his son, Ozzie (Kathie) Goedert of Falcon Heights.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held on February 7 at St. Rose of Lima Church.

Lenna M. Jensen

Lenna M. Jensen died on February 2, 2001. She was 104 years old and a resident of Lyngblomsten Care Center.

Mrs. Jensen is survived by three sons, Gordon (Irene) Jensen, Marvin (Betty) Jensen, and Willard (Violet) Hockemeyer; nine grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and 20 great-great-grandchildren. Services were held on February 5 at Lyngblomsten Chapel.

Robert W. Kurtz

Robert W. "Bob" Kurtz, age 82, died on February 2, 2001. He had recently lived at Lyngblomsten Care Center and prior to that on Wellesley Avenue.

Mr. Kurtz was born in West St. Paul and was a graduate of Humboldt High School. He graduated from the College of St. Thomas in 1940 and was a member of the St. Thomas Hall of Fame for football, hockey, and baseball. He served as a First Lieutenant with the Strategic Services Unit during World War II. He was a parishioner at Holy Spirit Catholic Church.

He was preceded in death by three brothers, Lee, Chuck, and Paul "Bun" Kurtz. Survivors include his wife of 53 years, Mary Cody Kurtz, who grew up in the Como Park area; three sons, Mike (Patty) Kurtz of St. Paul, Joe (Marcia) Kurtz of Portland, Oregon, and Tom (Pam) Kurtz of St. Paul; five grandchildren, Emily, Peter, Nick, CJ and Ryan; and two brothers, Jack (Helen) Kurtz and Wally Kurtz. A Mass of Christian Burial took place at Holy Spirit Church on February 7.

Compiled by Ann Bulger

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Employment

LOOKING FOR VARIETY in a job? We need a F/T Activity Asst. for the summer with future possibilities. This person should be energetic, self-motivated, and able to lead group activities. Musical background a plus. Send resume or apply to: St. Anthony Park Home, 2237 Commonwealth Ave., St. Paul, 55108. 651-632-3502.

St. Paul Architectural Firm needs PT office person for lt. bookkeeping, clerical and office mgmt. Computer literacy req'd. Call Bruce at 651-645-6675. EEO/AA employer.

Housing

I BUY APARTMENT BUILDINGS (2-100 units) and other rental properties. Fair prices paid. Bob 952-890-9000.

HOUSE SWAP with Melbourne (Australia) couple for 2-4 weeks this summer. Phone 651-645-9115.

HOUSING WANTED summer 2001. Vassar College professor and family, former residents of St. Anthony Park, wish to sublet in or near the Park approximately June 25-August 15, 2001. References from previous Minnesota summer sublets available. Please contact Jim Merrell (845-471-4028, merrell@vassar.edu).

Notices

SAINT ANTHONY PARK GLBT GROUP Next potluck on Friday, March 9th at 6:30. For more information, call Susan or Chris at 651-644-2930.

Sales

9th ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE Church of Corpus Christi. 2131 Fairview Ave. N. Roseville. Saturday, March 31, 2001 8:30AM - 3PM.

Wanted

TOP CASH PAID. Older Furniture (All Types)-Also Rugs-Pictures-Frames-Clocks-Toys-Lamps-Glassware-Wood File Cabinets-Trunks-Linen-Pottery-Indian Items-Old Sports Equipment-Old Bikes-Pedal Cars-"ANYTHING OLD." Call 651-227-2469 Anytime!!!!

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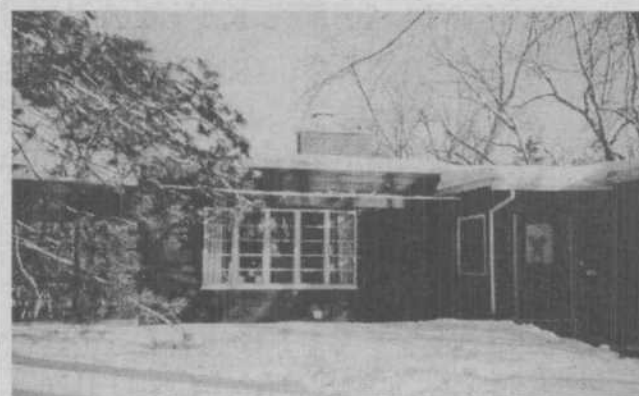
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Bus Route Changes ... from page 1

Jan. 22 community meeting. Transit staff said the proposals would duplicate other routes and would negatively affect service to surrounding neighborhoods.

Only one Metropolitan Council Member, James Nelson, voted against the changes. He used to live in the Como Park neighborhood and expressed concern about the proximity of park trails to the street. "A 10-ton bus and a bicycle don't mix," Nelson said.

"I'm not convinced there isn't a solution yet," said Mike Klassen of St. Paul Public Works. He asked Metro Transit to continue to work with city staff and the community on alternatives for the Gateway Drive area. Randy Rosvold and Adam Harrington of Metro Transit said they would be open to hearing new ideas. Rosvold said that all bus routes are reviewed on a quarterly basis.

"It was upsetting to learn that Metro Transit was going to run its buses on our street and through our park," said Erickson. He and other neighbors felt they didn't have much time to prepare route alternatives.

"We're not against people coming to our park and using it," Erickson said. "We just don't want to destroy the park in the process."

"We're not against buses, we're for the preservation of this area," said Brian Tenpas, who lives near Horton and Gateway Drive. He said the bus route is a step backwards in light of recent efforts to improve the park and Como Lake water quality.

"This just puts a lot of people in harm's way," said park neighbor Ron Rud.

"We understand that this is a big project, but this one-half mile is tremendously valuable to us," said Patti Rud. She said neighbors agree with the goal of improved access to the park but that Gateway Drive isn't the place to provide access. "We don't think that making something worse fixes our problem," she added.

Neighborhood residents met during December and January to discuss possible route changes. One meeting at St. Andrew's Catholic Church drew more than 100 people. Neighbors made various suggestions to change the route, including extending it up Dale Street to Larpenteur and then back down Cleveland. Another suggestion was to take the bus off of Como Avenue in St. Anthony Park and put it on the U of M transitway. ■

Wang Ping . . . from page 6

world to me. I'm a different person when I write in English."

Wang began writing about footbinding in part because she thinks the subject has not been fully understood by Western society. Paradoxically, she sees an element of self-mastery in women's voluntary submission to the painful rituals of binding their feet. She says, "These women were trying to declare, 'I'm in control of my body. I'm the author of my body,' rather than simply a blank page 'written' upon by the desires of men."

"Footbinding," she continues, "has been used by

American scholars as a symbol of oppression, but it's more than that." Chinese women, she explains, embraced the binding ritual and built a feminine communal culture around it.

It was a culture of proud, willed self-sacrifice in the name of beauty, but it was also a culture that figuratively bound mother to daughter as closely as the young girl's cramped toes were bound to the aching arch of her foot. It's a disturbing image that suggests a crippled mutual dependence as readily as a separate realm of female mystery.

Not that Wang is in any danger of finding herself too

closely tied to her own mother, who lives in China and does not read English. Nevertheless, her daughter says, "Somehow she knows what I write about."

And probably disapproves. Wang says her mother finds the "English language version" of her daughter, "ungrateful, selfish and, according to Chinese traditions, unfilial."

In "Aching for Beauty," Wang's focus is on traditional Chinese customs, but she insists that the implications of footbinding are universal.

She addresses the ritualized, obsessive pursuit of beauty in its most obvious Chinese form, but that doesn't mean that she's about to let Western society

off the hook. Western culture, she points out gently, is strewn with examples of physical deformation undertaken willingly in the pursuit of aesthetic perfection. From stiletto heels, to 19th-century corsets laced so tightly they sometimes fractured their victim's ribcage, to the painful enhancements of cosmetic surgery, the American cultural landscape is no stranger to the torture instruments of beauty.

Whether the model is Chinese or Western, she says, the goal is the same. "Each culture has different fixations, but desire for beauty is international. Some women will go through any pain to reach that." ■

LIFE IN THE CHURCH: COME AND SHARE

❖ BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

Skillman at Cleveland in Roseville. 651-631-0211
Bethany Baptist Morning Worship 10:45 am
Sunday School 9:30 am
6:45 Wednesday Programs
Pastor Bruce Petersen
Filipino-American Worship 11 am
Pastor Sanny Olojan

❖ COMO PARK LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA

1376 Hoyt Ave. W. 651-646-7127 Handicapped accessible
CPL Contact Ministry 651-644-1897
Sunday Schedule (nursery provided)
Rides available for 11 am worship (Call the church office before noon on Friday for ride)
8 am and 11 am Traditional Worship (Holy Communion on 1st and 3rd Sundays)
9 am - Children & Family Worship (Holy Communion on 1st and 3rd Sundays)

Pastors: Martin Ericson and Philip Gotsch
Visitation Pastor: Leonard Jacobsen
Director of Youth and Family Ministry:
Director of Music Ministry: Thomas Ferry

❖ CORPUS CHRISTI CATHOLIC CHURCH

2131 No. Fairview at County Road B. 651-639-8888
Meaningful liturgies in a new worship space.
A welcoming community. Handicap-accessible
Saturday Mass: 5 pm
Sunday Masses: 8:30 and 10:30 am
Stations of the Cross every Wednesday 7 pm

❖ EMMANUEL MENNONITE CHURCH

MEETING AT THE CHAPEL OF THE CROSS, LUTHER SEMINARY
1501 Fulham St. (Northwestern Seminary Bldg)
Sunday Service: 9:30 am
Sunday School for all ages at 11 am
Nursery care provided
Pastor Mathew Swora 651-766-9759

❖ FALCON HEIGHTS UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

1795 Holton St., (at Garden) Falcon Heights 55113
651-646-2681; (FAX) 651-646-1677
Daily Devotion Line: (952) 903-4037
Worship Schedule:
8:30 am - Service of Word and Sacrament
10:30 am - Public Worship
Faith Education for all ages: 9:15-10:15 am
Office Hours: 9 am-5 pm Monday-Friday

❖ MOUNT OLIVE EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH (A WELS Congregation)

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Handicap-accessible. Wheelchair available.
1460 Almond at Pascal. 651-645-2575
Sunday Worship: 9 am
Sunday School and Adult Bible Class: 10:30 am

❖ PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US!
1744 Walnut at Lone. 1 block north of Larpenteur. 651-644-5440.
Sunday School and Adult Forum 9:15 am
Sunday Worship: 10:30 am, Holy Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays
Tuesday Bible Study: 10 am
After School Program Tuesday & Thursday 3:30-5:30 Grades 3-6
Pastor Drew Flathmann

❖ ROSE HILL ALLIANCE CHURCH

Roselawn at Cleveland. 651-631-0173
Sunday English Worship: 9:30 am, Japanese Worship: 9:15 am
Sunday School: 11 am, Int'l. Connection 5:00 pm
Mondays - Sr. Hi Youth Group 6:15 pm
Wednesday Int'l. Women's American Culture Class 1:00 pm
Wednesdays Jr. Hi Youth Group and Awana 6:45 pm

❖ ST. ANTHONY PARK LUTHERAN

We are a community of believers called to joyfully serve God, one another, and the world.
Como and Luther Place. Handicap-accessible. 651-645-0371
Pastor Del Jacobson

Sunday worship services at 8:45 (nursery provided) & 11 am
Coffee and Fellowship between services
Education Hour at 9:50 am
Faith Chinese Fellowship at 1:30 pm
信義教會 星期日下午

Men's Prayer Group Fridays at noon

Lenten Worship Schedule - The "I Am" Sayings of Jesus
Wednesday, March 7-April 4, 7 pm (Soup supper at 5:30-
everyone invited)

Maundy Thursday Services, Thursday, April 12, 10 am & 7 pm
Good Friday Tenebrae Service, Friday, April 13, 7 pm
Easter Sunday Services, April 14, 6:30, 8:45 & 11 am
Our van is available for transportation to and from services.

❖ ST. A.P. UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

2129 Commonwealth at Chelmsford. 651-646-7173
Handicap accessible and an Open and Affirming Congregation
Dane Packard, Pastor; Carrie Rice Sauter, Child & Youth Director
Sunday Worship & Sunday School at 10 am, Fellowship: 11 am
Nursery Care provided - 10:15 am

❖ ST. A.P. UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"Becoming God's community on earth"
2200 Hillside Ave (at Como) 651-646-4859
Pastor Deb Walkes
10 am Worship Celebration, with Sunday School at 10:20
11 am Fellowship and Adult Forum at 11:15
Wednesdays: 9 am-1 pm Leisure Center (Senior fellowship,
activities, and noon meal)
Starting March 7 (in Chapel) Daily Lenten Devotions 11:30-12:00

❖ 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
8:15 am at Seal Hi-Rise, 825 Seal St. (handicapped accessibility)
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 7 am Mass at the Parish Center

❖ ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

2136 Carter at Chelmsford. 651-645-3058
Sunday Services:
8 am Holy Eucharist, Rt. 1
9:15 am Education Hour for All Ages, including an adult forum and Bible study
10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rt. 2, with choir
(All baptized Christians are invited to receive communion with us and no person seeking a deeper relationship with God in Christ will be turned away from our Lord's table.)
Tuesday, February 27, 5:30-7:30 pm, Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, to support University Episcopal Center mission trip to Mexico City
Ash Wednesday, February 28, 7 am-10 am, & 6 pm. Eucharist with the option of the imposition of ashes (6 pm service followed by simple supper)
Wednesday evenings in March: 6:15 pm, simple soup supper; 7 pm Evensong; and 7:30 Lenten Series: "Deadly Sin; Lively Faith: Spiritual Theology for Today"
Sunday afternoons in March: 4:50-5:30 pm, St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church, "Hallelujah: The Bible and Handel's 'Messiah'," an ecumenical Lenten study with the United Church of Christ and St. Matthew's
Ministers of the Church: All the baptized members
Clergy Who Support the Ministers: The Rev. Grant Abbott, Rector, and the Rev. Lyn 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
Rev. Timothy Held, Minister

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