Neighborhoods urge tighter pollution control

MPCs’ handling of Rock-Tenn’s VOC/HAP permit draws criticism

Anne Holzman

A boisterous notification for an emissions permit renewal in St. Anthony Park has triggered a debate about the role of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) in mediating between businesses that pollute and neighbors who are affected by pollution.

Cardboard recycler Rock-Tenn, located west of Vandafla between University Avenue and I-94, has the federal Environmental Protection Agency’s permission to release volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and hazardous air pollutants (HAPs) into the air.

The permit covers every five years. When it does, the MPCA reviews the permit, notifies a list of interested parties that there will be a public comment period, awaits comment and generally renews the permit — unless the company’s emissions appear to violate federal standards.

Most companies’ permits get renewed without much comment, but neighborhoods and other organizations have occasionally carried out letter-writing campaigns, staged demonstrations and forced changes in the permit.

Neighborhood groups, while they praise Rock-Tenn’s voluntary efforts to reduce their VOC emissions, have complained that they were not notified of the Rock-Tenn permit renewal back in November 2002. They requested an extension of the public comment period from the MPCA, but that extension was denied.

This particular permit is of interest, neighbor say, because Rock-Tenn is the fourth largest "point source" (as opposed to "mobile sources" such as cars and trucks) of VOCs in the metro area.

So far, the Twin Cities area has avoided "nonattainment" status under Clean Air Act rules, meaning that our air pollution levels fall within federally defined limits for the health of the community. A slip into nonattainment would launch the Twin Cities into the company of cities like Chicago and Los Angeles. A new set of rules would require heightened monitoring and tighter controls, and increased expenses for many companies that are so far avoiding such stringent measures.

Pollution alerts in December, activists say, heightened the concern.

Volunteers help monitor butterfly population

U of M program uses “citizen scientists” to study monarchs

Clay Christensen

"Who doesn’t love monarch butterflies?" I asked rhetorically.

"Birds!" replied my six-year-old grandson, Korr. "If they eat them, they get sick!"

That’s true. Eating a monarch works like special on the unfortunate bird’s stomach, and it soon learns to avoid that characteristic black and orange pattern. But I didn’t expect my grandson to know that already.

There went the lead for my article about two special programs led by Dr. Karen Oberhauser, an assistant professor in the University of Minnesota’s Department of Ecology, Evolution and Behavior at the Bell Museum.

Oberhauser lives in Roseville and works on the St. Paul campus of the University. Her husband is also a biologist, specializing in a moth that is a pest on corn crops. They have two daughters, ages 13 and 15.

One of the programs Oberhauser has developed is the Monarch Larvae Monitoring Project (MLMP). The other is Monarch in the Classroom (MITC).

The MLMP is in its fifth year and involves “citizen scientist” volunteers across the country who collect data on the distribution and quantity of monarch eggs and caterpillars, or larvae, throughout the summer.

The MLMP is funded by the National Science Foundation, has three primary objectives: education, research and conservation.

Other issues that residents judged important were the environmental impact of trash hauling and recycling, the number and size of trucks in streets and alleys, and having a choice of hauler.

A substantial majority of respondents (172 to 59) indicated they would be willing to have the Falcon Heights City Council negotiate a contract with a single garbage hauler that would guarantee lower prices and high-quality service. Also, a majority would be willing to pay more for a hauler who deposited the waste at a recovery facility.

Falcon Heights residents weigh in on local issues

Antoine Young

Falcon Heights residents recently completed a survey that the city will use to guide planning and decision making over the coming years.

"This kind of thing allows us to take the temperature of the city," said City Council Member Peter Lindstrom. "We get phone calls from residents and have chance conversations with some of them, but a survey like this gives us a broader picture."

One survey item addressed elections.

Currently, Falcon Heights holds city and school board elections during odd years, but the city is considering switching city races to even years to coincide with county, state and national elections. There is no plan to change school board elections.

Survey results revealed a strong sentiment for change, with 131 respondents supporting the switch, 25 opposed and 66 expressing no opinion. Twenty-two residents thought the switch would be more efficient or save money, and 42 thought it would yield better voter turnout.

Several survey questions dealt with garbage hauling and recycling services. The cost of those services was rated extremely important by 66 respondents and not at all important by 13, with 42 falling in between the two extremes.

Skaters enjoy a winter afternoon at Langford Park. Recent cold weather has made it easier for ice skaters to maintain a consistent ice sheet. Flooding at Langford’s risk is done by a group of volunteers who help make it one of the premier skating areas in the city.
African Marketplace adds spice to University Avenue

Services and merchandise serve neighbors and immigrants

by Anne Holzman

In south St. Anthony Park, a diverse group of merchants is attempting to recreate something of the African marketplace in a nondescript cement building on University Avenue. A year and a half after opening, the African International Marketplace, just east of Highway 280, houses 64 businesses serving mostly Somali customers living in the Twin Cities.

Marketplace manager Fatumo Ali says that in recent months the businesses have been making money, but that additional neighborhood support would help the marketplace thrive. There is still room for expansion, she said, but the focus for the immediate future is on nurturing existing businesses.

The entrance on Pelham Boulevard leads past a hairstyling salon and into the main market area, where stalls along narrow walkways bustle with imported clothing, fabrics, rugs and gift items.

Arabic script and the smell of cardamom lend the marketplace a Mediterranean air in spite of its cement floors. Sherbet stalls and fluorescent lights.

On a recent Saturday afternoon, teenage boys in the Coffer Africa coffee shop watched soccer while the rest of Minnesota was more likely tuning in other sports.

Inside the University Avenue entrance, the rare non-African proprietor, Rochella Carrington, runs a dreammaking shop specializing in African fabrics, with a sideline in skin care products and other items her mostly African and African-American customers might need. Carrington is originally from Texas and has lived in Minnesota since 1956. She said the used to sew at home and has worked in child care and as a nursing assistant. The marketplace presented an opportunity to start her own business. She's been surprised at how difficult it is to find suppliers to suit her customers' needs, but the sewing and alterations part is easy to keep going. She also sells hats handmade by a friend.

Most of the International African Marketplace businesses are Somali owned, and manager Ali said all of them were new start-ups when the marketplace opened a year and a half ago. Some have had assistance from the Neighborhood Development Center, she said, but the marketplace itself does not assist with start-up.

A curey community has developed among proprietors, customers and relatives in the main market area. Children play in the halls on a recent afternoon two teenage girls gave each other rides on a wheeled chair with none of shredding and picking.

Some teenagers also find jobs in relatives' stalls, sitting behind counters and chatting on cell phones in a mix of Somali and English.

A car accident at a nearby intersection caused a buzz in the halls that same afternoon, as observers used the marketplace as a forum to reflect on the hideousness of the accident and the dangerous driving conditions in the high-traffic triangle of University, Franklin and Highway 280.

Neighbors who wish to visit will find more businesses open late in the afternoon. Some open as early as 10 a.m., but hours are irregular.

The dry cleaner, for example, posts hours 11 a.m.-1 p.m. and 5-7 p.m. seven days a week. The market is busiest on Saturdays, but even then it might take several visits to connect with a particular business.

Persistence yields plenty of English speakers. As always in an immigrant community, it's best to seek out teenagers. Parking is free and not hard to find, either in the small parking lot or along University Avenue or along Pelham Blvd. south of Franklin.

The coffee shop seems to keep the longest hours. It serves coffee and related drinks, bottled juices and a few snacks. A hand-painted mural on one wall of the coffee shop evokes a tropical seashore.

A coffee shop worker said proprietors have been discussing how to make the market more visible and attractive from the surrounding streets.

"We do have a lot of things that the neighbors actually use," Ali said, suggesting that area residents might use the dry cleaning service or meet at the coffee shop.

Ali said neighborhood social service agencies should be aware that many services for immigrants are available at the marketplace, including money wiring, tax filing and links to country services.

Although the businesses in the marketplace are showing progress, "we need the neighbors," Ali said.

Amid Jomo and Saudi Arsen take a break from minding the store at the African International Marketplace.

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Americans were born to move. Many of the first Americans were nomadic, ranging widely over the land. Later they were joined by immigrants who had left their European homelands. The nation was settled by a relentless seaward migration. We became what we are because our ancestors were willing to pack up and hit the road.

Our disposition to travel is more cultural than genetic. Unlike, say, monarch butterflies, we’re not wired to migrate, and we’ve learned to survive without moving from place to place. But through many of us have become settled, we are still stirred by travel.

Travel allows us to see the world as if it were the right day that St. Anthony Park Elementary teacher Judy Rowe used last fall to capture the attention of some sixty sixth graders at Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center. Many students who go to Wolf Ridge have never seen the woods before. As Rowe says, “It’s spectacular, but words don’t do it justice. You have to be there.” Sometimes we have to be somewhere because others will be there too. That’s what motivated three St. Anthony Park women to spend 46 hours on a bus recently getting to and from Washington, D.C. They didn’t go to see the sights; they went to be a sight, a presence, in the nation’s capital. They went to make a statement about the prospect of war in Iraq, and their willingness to travel a great distance amplified their words.

In Walden, Thoreau wrote, “I have traveled a good deal in Concord.”

Though he logged a many a mile tramping through the Massachusetts woods, Thoreau’s remarks about traveling clearly refers to more than physical movement. The journey described in “Walden” is imaginative and spiritual. Thoreau challenges readers to lift their vision and broaden their horizons—even if they stay in the same place.

Can one travel a good deal in St. Anthony Park?

Take a spin through this issue, and the answer is clear enough. In the coming days the stay-at-home traveler can see slices of Japan’s peace gardens, hear African stories and songs, meet to discuss the Middle East conflict, and celebrate an evening of Afghan food, music, and culture. An African marketplace is as close as University Avenue.

Travel, whether actual or imaginative, can be broadening—but only if one lets it. As Thoreau notes, “It is not worth the while to go round the world to count the cats in Zanzibar.” It’s not much use to go over the mountain if, like the fabled bear, all that you can see is the other side of the mountain. Or to go to London to see the Queen and, like the fabled parson, spend your time frightened mice.

But for those who have eyes to see and ears to hear, there’s nothing quite like being on the road—even when you never leave home.

Join the progressing dinner
The 17th annual St. Anthony Park Progressive Dinner will be held on Saturday, March 1. We hope you can join us for a wonderful evening. It’s a great way to see old friends and meet new neighbors.
The dinner will begin with worship at the Methodist Church at 5:30 p.m. To participate, call or e-mail Marcie O’Connor: 645-2043, marce@havem.com. Please sign up by February 21 so we have time to plan the schedule.

We hope to see you there!

Marcie O’Connor
St. Anthony Park

An invitation to dialogue
Regarding the very real potential for war and conflict in the Middle East, many in our community feel the need for a dialogue about the situation.

To that end, St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church will host a forum, “A World at War,” on four Monday evenings beginning January 27 and continuing February 24, March 31 and April 28.

Sessions will run from 7-9 p.m. in the St. Matthew’s library, 2316 Carter Avenue. All are welcome to attend, regardless of religious persuasion or viewpoint.

Stop invasive species
It’s a difficult time for many of us. I’m very concerned about invasive plant species (particularly the shrubby buckthorn) destroying our woodlands, farmlands and cemeteries. However, I am even more in fear of another shrub invasive species that is trying for a second time to invade another part of the world.

A little over 10 years ago the first generation of this invasive tried and failed. Now the second generation is on the attack.

Write, call or e-mail your federal representatives to tell them you cannot support George Bush’s invasion of Iraq. On President’s Day this year, make it a point to let George Bush know that you do not agree with his plans to invade.

One way to write is to log on to the following Web Site: www.moveon.org/wins/TwistOWar/

In closing, I will leave you with this prayer that I read at the 3rd World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-City Alliance. It was written in Hiroshima/Nagasaki, Japan in 1993. It was written by Rabbi Bernard Raskas, rabbi emeritus of the Temple of Aaron in St. Paul.

We Are the Generation
We are the generation that stands between the fires. Behind us is the flame and smoke that rose from Auschwitz, Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Before us is the nightmare of a thermonuclear holocaust that could make every human city a crematorium without a chimney.

It is our task to make from fire not an all-consuming blast, but the light in which we see each other.

All of us different, all of us made in the image of God.

We light this fire to see more clearly that the earth, the human race, is not for burning.

We light this fire to see more clearly that we are living in our many-colored faces.

Mary Magdalene
St. Anthony Park

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Thank you, readers, for contributing to the Bugle fund drive.

With contributions from those listed below, our annual fund drive has collected $19,585. Our goal for the fiscal year is $23,000. Contributions are still welcome.

- Nina Hoyes and James W. Beatie, Jr.
- Eric Johnson
- Erin Griffin and Karen Kliewer
- Jay Schrader and Carol Carey
- Ben & Donna Souza
- Carolyn Shepherd
- Phil & Barbara Morley
- Wayne J. & Ann Sad
- Glen & Anna Skovholm
- Marieta Spencer
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The Park Bugle is a community newspaper serving St. Anthony Park, Lindbergh, Folken Heights, Northrop, and Wash Park neighborhoods. We regard ourselves as an improviser and_stub shouting news and promote the exchange of ideas and opinions in our community. The Bugle serves to promote freedom of expression, augment the quality of life in the leadership commission and encourage community participation.

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St. Anthony Park residents Meg Loyse, Lee Heidman and Regula Russelle gather before the Jan. 18 Peace Rally in Washington D.C.

On January 18, four members of St. Anthony Park Neighbors for Peace participated in the Washington, D.C. protest against the planned invasion of Iraq.

Three of us traveled by bus. A fourth member, Gaius Poehler, flew and remained for the youth planning events on Sunday.

We went in the hope that war with Iraq can be prevented and that sanctions can be lifted to allow the import of much-needed medicine, food, water treatment parts and chlorine for water purification. UNICEF has estimated that 500,000 Iraqi children had died by 1998 because of these sanctions.

For this long weekend (23 hours on the bus each way, and 8 hours of standing and marching, mostly in the cold!) we were on a pilgrimage to the Capitol. The nearer we came to Washington, the more people we met at rest stops along the freeway. These tributaries of buses from Minnesota, Missouri, Wisconsin, Illinois and other states joined into a river. We felt part of a great converging effort.

At the rally and the march we were particularly moved by the people representing university, church and civic groups, many of whom carried lovingly embroidered and painted banners. In the sea of people, there were many families with children. Some signs were signed with names of those who couldn't travel to Washington. We saw one sign for another Neighbor for Peace group. They came from Chicago, where the City Council recently passed a resolution against a pre-emptive U.S. military attack on Iraq.

The people on our bus seemed to reflect those at the rally and march. Fellow travelers included grandmothers with grandchildren, young and old first-time demonstrators, seasoned activists, a suburban family of four, a retired priest and five Stillwater high school students.

One of the signs we carried read "Children of the world are looking up to U.S." We want to be proud of our nation. We want it to be a model for children and adults everywhere.

Though tiring, our bus trip was both fun and deeply satisfying—full of soul-inspiring singing and music making, poetry, laughter, conversation, sharing of food and stories. We were overwhelmingly thankful for the thoughtful planning by the St. Joan of Arc church community, for sending four buses to the march and for emphasizing the spiritual grounding of our journey.

As we took turns reflecting on the day’s experience on the bus ride back to the Twin Cities, several mentioned how wonderful it was to have so many young people participate in this political statement. One of the high school students then said that for her and her generation it was wonderful to have so many older people participate.

We made our pilgrimage to Washington to urge our elected officials and fellow citizens to lift the sanctions and to make the world more safe and just by working diplomatically in conjunction with international bodies like the World Court, the United Nations and international human rights organizations. War with Iraq is not the answer.

We hope we're doing our small part to "balance the scales and steer the stars."

Lee Heidman, Meg Loyse and Regula Russelle, members of St. Anthony Park Neighbors for Peace

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For more information and to join us contact:
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Monarch wintering grounds

by Clay Christensen

Most of us are aware of the daunting migration trek that monarchs take every year. Many of them travel over two thousand miles to winter in sanctuaries in Mexico, among the oyamel fir trees.

There’s nothing particularly distinctive about the oyamel fir tree. It’s the habitat that’s the key. The forest is about 10,000 feet in elevation and just the right temperature for the butterflies. If it were any colder, they’d freeze to death; any warmer and their metabolism would speed up too much and they wouldn’t be able to last the winter.

Monarchs spend the winter on the southwest-facing slopes, where moister Pacific air provides humidity. The forest is fairly dense, so the leaves form a blanket of cover that protects the monarchs from the wind and provides additional warmth.

Monarchs also roost in trees during their migration flight. “You’ll see them by the thousands in trees in Texas,” said the University of Minnesota’s Dr. Karen Oberhauser.

In addition to her responsibilities as a professor at the U of M, Oberhauser is president of the Monarch Butterfly Sanctuary Foundation, which promotes conservation of the monarch overwintering sites in Mexico. The Foundation supports Mexican nongovernmental organizations working to encourage more sustainable use of the forests, Mexican researchers who are studying habitat requirements of the monarchs and environmental education in local schools.

Contact Karen Oberhauser (oberh001@tc.umn.edu) for more information about the Monarch Butterfly Sanctuary Program, or visit their Web site at www.mbsf.org.

Monarchs from page 1

The MLMP studies monarchs on their summer breeding grounds. “It would be wonderful to have neighborhood involvement in the project,” said Oberhauser. “All volunteers need is a site with some milkweed. It can be in a garden, by a field, along a road, or a designated area in a nature center.”

Citizen scientists attend a brief training session to learn about identifying, logging and reporting their findings, or they read directions on the project Web site. Then once a week during the summer, volunteers walk through a milkweed bed, counting all the monarch eggs and larvae on each plant along a line.

Over half of MLMP volunteers monitor with others, usually children. Anyone interested can contact Oberhauser at 612-624-8706 or oberh001@tc.umn.edu. “They’d be welcome to visit my office, the lab, the greenhouse, or attend a class,” she said. “I’d love to do a session on the project at the St. Anthony Park Library.”

The second major project that Oberhauser heads is Monarchs in the Classroom. MITC trains K-12 classroom teachers in two-week summer classes. Teachers learn how to use monarch eggs, larvae and butterflies to introduce students to biology and ecology, the scientific method and the process of doing research.

Teachers can order monarch eggs and/or larvae for their classroom. Last fall, the MITC project sent 53,207 eggs and larvae to teachers in Minnesota and Wisconsin. The average order is 10 to 100 per classroom, depending on how the teacher plans to use the creatures. Some just want their students to be able to observe monarchs in the classroom. Others launch projects with monarchs, designing study projects around the life cycle of the butterfly, its habitat or other factors.

K-12 high and middle school students can display their projects at the Monarch Fair, funded by the Medtronic Foundation and held annually at the University’s Bell Museum to recognize and promote student research.

Winning topics from a recent Monarch Fair included the activity level of caterpillars exposed to cold temperatures, monarch larvae growth on hoya compared to milkweed, and the study of the relationship between male and female monarch butterfly proboscis length and wing length.

Now in its 11th year, the MITC has a full-time program assistant and uses three co-teachers and a graduate student in its summer classes. Initial funding came from the Eisenhower Professional Development Program. Currently MITC is funded as part of President Bush’s “No Child Left Behind” initiative through a federal block grant called “Improving Teacher Quality.”

In addition to funded programs within Minnesota, Oberhauser takes the workshop all over the country on a fee basis, where those attending or sponsoring the workshop cover the costs. Workshops have been held in Pennsylvania, Georgia, Minnesota and South Dakota. She also holds workshops in various metro school districts each year, also on a fee basis.

I asked my grandson, Koer, how long he had known that eating a monarch butterfly makes a bird spit up. “I’m not sure,” he said. “Since I was five, I think. I might have read about it, but I’m not sure.”

I think he’d be a good volunteer for counting monarch larvae this summer.

Further information about the Monarch Larva Monitoring Project is available at www.mlmp.org. Further information about the Monarch in the Classroom program is available at www.monarchclub.umn.edu.

St. Anthony Park Home Sales

2002 Real Estate Update

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<th>Number of Homes</th>
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<td>sold</td>
<td>21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lowest Home Price</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average Market Time</td>
<td>22 days</td>
<td>18 days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- The average sale price was 100.05% of the list price.
- The average sale price increased by 18%.
- There were 2 homes that failed to sell this past year, compared to 5 last year.
- There were 2 sales over $400,000.
- This excludes town houses and condos.

Please call us if we can be of any assistance to you regarding your home.

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Hello, it’s me again, your faithful 4-H reporter. At last month’s meeting we split into two groups. The younger members (about 36) made carnival masks using rubberbands with popsicle stick handles. They decorated the masks with feathers, foam shapes, stickers, markers, stamps and jewels. The older members held a business meeting. We started by talking about how our new projects are doing. I don’t know if there were any people whose projects are as good as new, but some of them are still alive.

We also discussed what we are going to do for our next project meeting. We will have a Valentine’s event on Saturday, February 8th. We will be spending some of the time at our regular meeting place, Ladora City Hall, and the rest of the time at the St. Anthony Park Nursing Home.

With the cold weather back in our group, four people did demonstrations. Emma Weber showed how to give a presentation at Food-O-Rama. She presented a spaghetti dinner and set it as if it were in a restaurant. Next, John Weber talked to us about hockey equipment and about how hockey is played.

Life Johnson did a presentation on table settings, using paper cutouts with Vivaldi to hang on an easel. She showed a setting for a family dinner and for a formal dinner.

Swan Drache demonstrated how to make an American head flag. Using a stick, string and red, white and blue beads, she was able to make an American flag hanging from the stick.

After the meeting, I interviewed the president of our 4-H club, Michaela Altenik. She is 16 years old, given to Columbia Heights High School, and her favorite color is red.

Michaela has been in 4-H for six years and has been president for two years. She says that being president makes her feel powerful and respected. Before she was president, she was secretary, treasurer and historian.

Michaela says that knowing how to run a meeting and get and keep people’s attention are the keys needed to be a president. She says that 4-H ROCKS!

2003 Family Concerts series begins this month

Music in the Park Series’ 2003 Family Concerts will begin February 7 with performances by Danielle Daniel that feature African and African-American stories and songs, with music performed on a variety of traditional instruments. Concerts are at 6:15 and 7:30 p.m.

The Family Concerts series presents performances especially designed for children of all ages and their families. The three-concert series, “American Music: Folk and Jazz Traditions,” features Twin Cities artists representing a variety of musical styles and idioms.

The informal setting of the family concerts brings children close to the performers, who interact with the audience, weaving music with commentary and involving children in a variety of activities.

The Family Concert series continues on March 14 with Ross Sutter, instrumentalist and vocalist, in a program of folk songs and stories. On April 4, Joan Griffith (guitar and brass) and Ruth Markenze (vocalist) will present “What is Jazz?”

All Family Concert performances are held at St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church, 2136 Carter Avenue. Tickets for individual performances are $5 in advance and $6 at the door. A season ticket for all three concerts is $12. Tickets are available by e-mailing music@episcopalshop.org or calling 645-5659.

Saint Paul Parents:

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Feb. 29: 10 a.m., chapel
Feb. 29: 26: 30 p.m., lecture II

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(lower level of the chapel at Lyngbylomsten)
Learning the ropes at

by Natalie Zett

When Blanche Burroughs interviewed for a teaching job at St. Anthony Park Elementary, it was with the proviso that she would spend an entire week in October in the wilderness along with all of her sixth graders.

Burroughs, who had no previous wilderness experience, took the challenge in stride. "Well, I had three young children and they said I could take them along, so I said sure," Burroughs soon found herself living in an old army barracks at an environmental learning center in northern Minnesota.

One of her "classrooms" in this backwoods setting was a small stream. "I was teaching in hip boots, wading through a few feet of water with nets and pH kits to test acidity. The class was called 'stream study.' I had no clue, but we did have a lesson plan, so I figured I could do it."

Burroughs likened her wilderness initiation to eating Fritos—"I couldn't get enough of it after that"—and before long she was bushwhacking trails along with the best of them.

Thus began Burroughs' 30-year-plus association with an environmental education program that would eventually become the Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center. Begun by Jack Pichotta in 1971 at an old Job Corps camp at Isabella, Minnesota, the program has evolved from its humble beginnings into a nationally known and accredited environmental education center.

In 1988, Wolf Ridge moved from the Job Corps barracks to Finland, Minnesota, which provided a setting more conducive for its purposes. "It’s totally awesome," said Burroughs, who retired from full-time teaching yet still participates in St. Anthony Park Elementary’s Wolf Ridge trips.

The Wolf Ridge campus includes Wolf and Raven Lakes, nearly a mile off the Baptism River and a half mile off Sowmill Creek. Trails, covering rugged terrain, lead to many overlooks, lakes, streams and activity sites. The main buildings are located on a plateau overlooking Lake Superior.

"In the early years," said Burroughs, "the teachers created and taught the curriculum. Now, it's taught by naturalists, and the teachers act as chaperones. They attend classes and participate in the activities." Wolf Ridge has a staff of 64 during the school year, including program naturalists and graduate naturalist interns.

Although many schools now participate in the Wolf Ridge program, including Murray Junior High, St. Anthony Park Elementary was the first. Even after 30 years, this is still the highlight of the school year for the sixth grade class, as well as for the accompanying teachers and parents.

"It’s a rite of passage and there is nearly 100 percent participation by sixth graders—that's 800/90 kids a year for an entire week," said Thrasher, a parent of three, who participates in the Wolf Ridge excursions. "The parents at St. Anthony Park School are so grateful that we can support such a wonderful experience for our sixth graders. They will never forget it."

The benefits, according to Thrasher, are more than just environmental awareness. "Since this happens near the beginning of the school year, it gives the children a chance to bond. The Wolf Ridge staff is wonderful, and they always look forward to St. Anthony Park attending. Since many children don't otherwise get a chance to leave the city, this is a great opportunity. If families can't find themselves, there are fundraising events to help. Also, the St. Anthony Park Business Association has been extremely helpful in providing assistance."

The courses at Wolf Ridge put a whole new spin on the traditional "field trip." For example, in the animal signs class, students travel 320 feet uphill for two hours, seeking and learning to identify evidence left by animals. In addition, there are many other daytime classes to choose from in categories such as animals, plants, aquatics and earth science.

Of special note is Wolf Ridge's human culture and history curriculum, which includes an Ojibwe heritage class. Students travel to a recreated Ojibwe site, where they practice skills commonly used 200 years ago such as starting a fire by using a bow drill and steel, preparing wild rice and raspberry tea, and making hazelnut twine and black ash baskets. Students are also
Wolf Ridge

introduced to Ojibwe history and language.

Perhaps the class that generates the most discussion is the ropes course, where both children and adults participate. Wolf Ridge has two adjacent ropes courses consisting of six events separated by towers and roughly 30 feet off the ground. Students navigate the course while attached to safety lines.

Said Theraber, "In the ropes course, everyone partners with another person. The one on the ground encourages the one doing the course. There is no pressure to complete it, but the kids feel proud of themselves after attempting it. This encourages kids to safely go a step beyond their perceived limitations. The partner is involved, and the relationship carries over when they are back in school."

Judy Roe, who teaches at St. Anthony Park and had her first Wolf Ridge experience this year, echoed that sentiment. "There was an academically capable student doing the ropes course who had a special ed. student as an encourager. The first kid was terrified and might not have had the courage to go on were it not for the special ed. kid standing below shouting, 'You can do it! You can do it!'"

Roe added, "I now understand why people work so hard to keep this program alive. You're entering a different atmosphere—you're living together, you're roughing it. Students get to see teachers in a different light and vice versa. Everyone is on equal footing and a suble bond starts taking place. You're out of your normal roles."

Kristal Leebrik, a parent who also attended Wolf Ridge for the first time this year, agrees: "This is a different type of learning environment—one where those who are at the top of the heap academically do not necessarily do well. It's a great leveller. Each child could find a place where he or she could kick onto something and blossom. A lot of times the otherwise confident kids had the biggest problems on the ropes, while the shy, quiet kids did well."

Even when not in structured activities, students have to change their mindset about how they care for the environment. "Kids have energy checks to figure out who is doing recycling or lost points for leaving lights on," said Burnoughs. "There's an energy award for the school that does the best. Students also share KP duties."

Evening activities include astronomy, black printing, creative expressions, drum circles, a night hike, paper making, rock climbing, star lab and volleyball. There is also an owl pellet class in which students dissect sterilized barn owl pellets. Each pellet contains a mammal skeletal that students reconstruct, glue on cards and bring home.

Judy Roe found the setting itself to be a powerful teacher. "As a teacher, you try to stay as close as possible to the problem students. It was rather difficult to do this in pitch black conditions at night."

One night as Roe and some students were walking back to the cabin after evening activities, she heard the familiar thumps of kids hitting each other. She intervened by holding one of the boys and shouting, "Look straight up!" Said Roe, "We walked peacefully together the rest of the way back to the cabin. Many of the students have never seen the stars without city lights interfering, and the sight is indescribable."

Theraber praised the sixth-grade teachers. "The teachers have to do a lot of leg work in planning for this event. They do things like practice campfire songs ahead of time. They spend a lot of energy, too, thinking about what kind of classes they want the children to take."

"In the end," said Theraber, "everyone learns to appreciate their environment and look for ways to sustain and respect it in the future. They have an opportunity to support, encourage and take care of one another, and they all have a chance to teach and learn each other—no matter where they are academically in the class. This promotes a caring and supportive community within the sixth grade, which then carries over into the classroom for the rest of the year."

For many students, it becomes a shared experience with their siblings, friends, aunts, uncles and parents who have also attended Wolf Ridge in previous years.

Roe explained, "You do learn a lot of content, such as in the geology courses, but what is most striking about the experience is hard to describe. It's spectacular, yet words don't do it justice. You have to be there."

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Gardening
At the February 4 meeting of the St. Anthony Park Garden Club, Mary Magarett Lemmel will show slides and discuss the peace gardens of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The program begins at 7 p.m. in the meeting room of the St. Anthony Park Library. The public is invited to attend.

The Minnesota State Horticultural Society sponsors a workshop on making and using compost bins. February 19, 6:30-8 p.m. at the Center for Northern Gardening, 1755 Prior Avenue. The cost is $5 for the general public, free for MSHS members. For more information, call 643-3601.

Town Meeting
Sen. Ellen Anderson, Rep. Alice Hausman and Rep. John Leach will hold a town meeting Saturday, February 22, 10 a.m.-noon at the Como Lakeside Pavilion. They are interested in hearing the views of local residents on any issue of concern. For more information, call 296-5537.

Progressive Dinner
The 17th annual St. Anthony Park Progressive Dinner will be held Saturday, March 1. The dinner begins at 5:30 p.m. with appetizers at St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church and then moves to peoples homes for the main course and dessert. To participate, e-mail or call Marcie O’Connor (marcie@haven.com, 645-2043) by February 21.

Arts Events
Music in the Park Series presents the Shanghai Quartet in concert February 9 at 4 p.m. at St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ, 2129 Commonwealth Avenue.
Currently in residence at the University of Richmond, the quartet regularly tours major music centers in North America, Europe and Asia. Their performance will feature works by Haydn, Beethoven and Zhou Long.

Tickets are $16 in advance, $18 at the door and $12 for students. They are available at Bidelor or Micawber's, or by calling 645-5699.

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10 PARK BUGLE FEBRUARY 2003

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In The Heart of the Beast Theatre
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Moria Park Community Services
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Medley Chamber of Commerce
Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment
Minnesota Environmental Fund
Minnesota Humanities Commission
Minnesota Score Association
Musical Dysphoria Association
Music In The Park Series
PATH
Park Bugle
Portage for Youth & Mealexchange 2002
Ramsey County Library Foundation
St. Anthony Park Association
St. Anthony Park Business Association
St. Anthony Park Community Band
St. Anthony Park Community Council / District 12
St. Anthony Park Community Foundation
St. Anthony Park Elementary School
St. Anthony Park Fall Festival
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Midwest Forum
St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 2136 Carter Avenue, will host a
four-part series on Monday evenings. "A World at War" will
look at the historical development of the Midwest crises. Discussions
will be led by Rev. Grant Abbot. The series will also include presentations by
a variety of special speakers.
Seasons run from 7:30 p.m.
at St. Matthew’s. They are scheduled for January 27,
February 24, March 31 and
April 28. For more information,
call 645-3058.

Fundraisers
Feline Rescue, a no-kill shelter and foster program for cats, will
hold a spaghetti dinner, raffle
and silent auction Sunday, February 2 from noon-5 p.m.
at Bethany Lutheran Church,
251 Franklin Avenue East, Minneapolis. The cost is $5.50 for adults, $3.50 for children
10 and under.
Feline Rescue's shelter is located at 2340 Charles Avenue
in south St. Anthony Park. For
more information, visit
www.felinerescue.org or call
642-5900.

An Afghan Evening is a fundraiser for the Partnership for
Education of Children in Afghanistan. The project is to
build a leadership school in
Kabul.

The event takes place
Saturday, March 15 at
St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church, 2136 Carter Avenue. The speaker
will be Dr. Ghafar Lakanwal,
former Afghanistan Minister of Agriculture and current executive
director of the Multicultural
Development Center.
Dinner will be served at
5 and 7:30 p.m., with the speaker at
6:30 p.m. Tickets are $16 and
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Hall of Fame
The Como High School Athletic
Department is soliciting nominations for its Hall of Fame. Inductees
will be former Como
athletes who have made a
significant contribution to society in
their post-high school lives.
Nominations must have
graduated from Como at least 10
years ago. Send nominations by
March 15 to Bill Niemczyk,
Como Park High School, 740 W.
Rose Ave., St. Paul, 55108.

School Orientation
The St. Paul Public Schools
Parent Information Fair will take
place Saturday, February 1 from
9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. at Roy Wilkins
Auditorium, 175 W. Kellogg
Blvd.
Participants will have an
opportunity to visit school and
program booths, talk to Student
Placement Center staff and enjoy
family activities.
Admission is free. Free
parking and shuttle buses are
available at St. Paul College,
235 Marshall Avenue.

Secondary school showcases will be held in February. The Como
Senior High event takes place at
7 p.m. on February 4. Murray
Junior High's showcase is at
6:30 p.m. on February 11.

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The Community Calendar is sponsored monthly by Wellington MANAGEMENT, INC.
that we may be pushing the Clean Air Act limits. 
Experts agree that noncompliance can be avoided. 
The debate is over how to stay under trigger levels, and 
specifically whether the MPCA should adjust permits downward 
and facilitate community 
and involvement, taking a more 
active role in pollution control. The 
environmental coordinator for several southeast 
Minneapolis neighborhoods, Justin Eisenhold, initiated this 
round of debates after he took a 
routine glance at the MPCA Web site during December. 
The MPCA links its permit 
renuials online, Eisenhold said, but there are so many 
that reliance on personal notification 
about these significant to his area, 
checking occasionally to make 
sure he's received all the 
notifications. In this case, he 
wasn't. "I happened to notice 
there was one that was on our 
environmental inventory," he said. 
The public comment period 
was close to expiring, so 
Eisenhold wrote to the EPA, 
regional office in Chicago asking 
for a delay in the process. 
Meanwhile, Paula Maccabe, 
who coordinates the Sierra Club 
Minneapolis air toxics campaign, 
was also wondering how she'd 
missed notification, and asked 
the MPCA to reopen their public 
comment period. After the 
MPCA denied her request, she 
set up a January 16 meeting with 
MPCA staff. Rock-Tenn 
representatives and neighborhood 
groups. 
The St. Anthony Park 
Community Council staff, which 
had not heard about the permit 
renewal either, wrote a letter to the 
MPCA with another request 
to reopen the comment period. 
On January 14, Eisenhold 
and Maccabe met with Rock-
Tenn management, including site 
manager Jeff Greenhills. "We 
probably spent the better part of 
two hours" discussing Rock-
Tenn's emissions and ways to 
reduce them, Greenhills said. 
"We've reduced our level of 
emissions here significantly over a 
number of years," Greenhills said. 
The company "invested a 
fair amount of money" in an 
improved incinerator, and shut 
down one that was responsible 
for heavy VOC emissions. 
At the MPCA meeting two 
months later, Rock-Tenn representa-
tives said such informal meetings 
are the way they prefer to work 
with community groups. They 
objected to Maccabe's assertion 
of Rock-Tenn's efforts to 
reduct emissions, not just to 
monitor them for EPA 
compliance. 
"When the permit first was 
discussed, a meeting like this 
should have been called," 
Maccabe said, gesturing around 
the room. "Other Rock-Tenn managers, 
neighborhood leaders and 
MPCA staff. At such a 
meeting, early in the permit 
process, Maccabe said, the 
MPCAs role should be to ask, 
"What are the consequences of 
the pollution? How are our 
neighbors affected?" 
MPCA staff objected that 
their resources are too limited to 
set up meetings for every permit 
that crosses their desks. "We don't 
have the luxury of time" to work 
on pollution control, permit 
engineer Paula Connell said. 
Eisenhold and Maccabe 
acknowledged that Rock-Tenn is 
one of the more cooperative 
companies in the Twin Cities 
area. Many polluters do not communicate with neighbors at 
all unless forced by the 
MPCA's comment rule, Maccabe said, 
so often the only way they learn 
about Rock-Tenn's efforts is through 
some sort of documentation. 
"The things we learned 
yesterday were some of the efforts 
that are being made—none of that is 
available to the public, she said. 
Eisenhold and Maccabe 
both complained that the MPCA 
had used outdated emissions 
numbers on the Rock-Tenn 
permit. Actual emissions have 
been significantly reduced 
in recent years, and the permit, 
the only public document available, 
should reflect that. 
Eisenhold said. He noted that 
when he tried to examine the Rock-
Tenn files at the MPCA 
office, they were unavailable, and 
said even though he knows 
his way through the system because 
it's his job, the public should 
have better access to current numbers. 
Maccabe suggested that the 
MPCA go one step further and 
reduce a company's emissions 
allowances to reflect their actual 
practices. Rock-Tenn manager 
Stephen Hasekamp said that the 
company would oppose lower 
limits written into the permit. He 
said the company would be more 
reluctant to lower emissions in 
the first place if they knew they'd be 
bound to lower numbers. 
Maccabe said the new numbers 
could trigger notification, not 
fines. A company would have to 
tell the neighbors if its emissions 
exceeded the usual quantities, 
preumably temporarily. 
According to Jane Prince, 
staff to Ward 4 St. Paul 
City Council Member Jay Benson, 
"The permit process isn't about 
what is the perfect situation for 
the company." She urged the 
MPCA to get involved in 
mediating between companies 
and neighborhoods. "Otherwise," 
she asked, "why have a permit?"
CLASSIFIEDS

Classified deadline: February 16, 6 p.m.

Next issue: February 26

1 Type your ad. Our style is to put the first few words in capital letters.
2 Capitalize the words. Avoid numbers or letters with a space on each side. A phone number is one word.
3 Figure your cost: $5.45 x number of words (50 minimum).
4 Send your ad & check to Bugle Classifieds, P.O. Box 8126, St. Paul, MN 55108 or deliver to the drop box at the side entrance to the Bugle office at 2190 Como Ave. on the Kenny Plaza side of the building by 6 p.m. on deadline day.
5 Classified ads are not taken over the phone.
6 Call Raymond Yats at 651-646-7699 with questions.


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2229 Caster Ave in St. Anthony Park

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February 2, 2003 • 11:30 am - 2:00 pm
Adults $9 / Children 12 & under $4
Over haled chickens / mashed potatoes with gravy / corn
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St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church
2200 Hibbard / Reservations Requested / 651-646-8694

NART M I N N E S O TA
AFGHAN EVENING!
Saturday, March 1st.
Afghan Dinner & Music.
5:00 or 7:30 pm - Dinner
6:45p
"Journey into Understanding" part II
Where:
St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
2136 Carter Ave. St. Paul MN 55108
All proceeds to The Partnership for Education of Children in Afghanistan
Tickets:
call (651-644-0211) also Black Opal Shop, Muezziners or Park Bank,
or email: office@stmatthewsco.org
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www.corneliuslutheran.org
Menu:
Saturday - Turkey Dinner
Sunday - Baked Ham & Vegetable Dinner

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Skilbas at Cleveland S., Roseville.
651-631-0211
Baptist Sunday Worship 10:45 am
Pastor Bruce Petersen
Filipino-American Worship 3:30 pm
Pastor Sunny Cepeda
† COMO PARK LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA
1376 Hoyt Ave., W., St. Paul, MN 55106-2300
651-644-7127
Handicapped accessible
CPL, Contact Ministry 651-644-1997
www.ComoParkLutheran.org
Sunday School:
8:00, 9:00, & 11:00 am - Worship
10:00 a.m. Adult Education & Sunday School
(Communion on 1st & 3rd Sundaes, nursery provided)
Rides available for 11:00 a.m. worship;
call the church office before noon on Friday for ride.
Pastor: Martin Erickson and David Greenblad
Visitation Pastor: Leonard Jacobson
Director of Youth and Family Ministry: Amy Donougahud
Director of Music Ministry: Thomas Ferry

† IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CHURCH
An Ecumenical Old Catholic Community
2200 Hillside Ave. 612-872-4690 or 651-776-3172
Saturday Mass: 5 pm in Upper Chapel
Rev. Genus Wedding Ministry
† MOUNT OLIVE EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH
(A WELS Congregation)
"THE CHURCH WITH A SMILE"
Handicap-accessible. Wheelchair available.
1460 Atwood at Pascal.
651-645-2575
Sunday Worship: 9 am.
Sunday School and Adult Bible Class: 10:30 am.
† ST. CECILIA'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
Cromwell and Byerly Place.
651-644-4092
Saturday Mass: 5 pm in the church
Sunday Mass: 10 am at church (nursery provided) and
8:15 am at St. Helene-Rose, 825 St. Se (handicapped accessibility)
† ST. ANTHONY PARK UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
2129 Commonwealth in Chelmisb, 651-645-7173
Website: www.sapcc.org
Handicapped accessible and an Open and Affirming Congregation.
Rev. Diane Pickard, Pastor
Adult Ed. Faith & Life Breakfast Forum - 8:30 am every Sunday.
Sunday Worship & Sunday School: 10:00 am, Fellowship: 11:00 am.
Nursery Care provided - 10:15 am.
Sunday, February 2, 10:00 am - Communion

† ST. ANTHONY PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
United in Love and Service
2200 Hillside Ave (at Como).
651-646-4859
Pastor Donna Marion Darron
Sundays:
10:00 am Worship Celebration
10:20 am Sunday School (5 years to 6th grade)
11 am Fellowship
11:05 am Youth Class
5:00 - 8:00 pm Alpha and Bible Study
Wednesday: 9 a.m. -1 p.m. Leisure Center (Senior fellowship, activities, and noon meal).
Chickens Dinner and Dessert Buffet, Sunday, February 2, 11:30 am - 2:00 pm.
† ST. ANTHONY PARK LUTHERAN CHURCH
We are a community of believers called to joyful serve God, one another, and the world. www.saplcc.org
2230 Como Ave. W. Handicap-accessible.
651-645-4571
Pastor Glenn Berg-Moberg. Email: saplcc@front.org
Sunday Worship services 8:45 & 11:00 am, (nursery provided)
Sunday School 9:30 am.
信義教會 原春天下
† ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
2136 Carter at Chelmsford. 651-645-3398
Friday, February
Music in the Park Family Concert - 6:15 & 7:30 pm
Danielle Dushel Trios - single tickets in advance $5.00, at door $6.00.
Monday, February 24
Midnight Study Group - 7:00 pm
PBI Documentary: "The Historical Development of Cities in the Midwest" & Group Discussion.
Tuesday, February 25
Anglican Heritage Tour Information Meeting - 7:30 pm
Rev. Grant Abbott gives an overview of a tour, he will lead to England & Scotland in October. 2003. Destinations include major sites of Anglican Church history (Edinburgh, Darwen, Whitby, Ricevabe, York, Cambridge & London).
Sunday Services
8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rt. I
10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rt. II
4:00 pm Prospect Hill Friends Meeting
Wednesday: 10:00 am. Communion, Chapel
6:30 pm, Evening Prayer, Chapel.
(All baptized Christians are invited to receive communion with us and no person seeking a deeper relationship with God on Earth will be turned away from our Lord's Table)
Ministers of the Church: All the baptized members
† ST. MICHAEL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA
1660 West County Road B, Roseville.
651-631-1510
one block west of Stillwater
Sunday Worship: 8:45 am and 11:00 am.
Education for ages 2 thru adult: 10:00 am - 10:50 am.
Nursery provided. Handicap accessible.
Pastors: Roland Hayes and Sarah Breckinridge Schweitz
For more information, check www.stmichaelsc.com
† WARRENDALE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1440 Como Ave. at Oxford. 651-489-6954
One block east of Lexington Parkway
Rev. Timothy Field, Minister
Sunday School: 9:30 am, Worship: 10:45 am

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