

# Park Bugle

St. Anthony Park, Falcon Heights, Lauderdale & Northwest Como Park

Volume 31, Number 6, December 2004

## Local businesses announce name changes

### New name, same owner at Finnish Bistro

by Dave Healy

Taste of Scandinavia, a fixture in St. Anthony Park for eight years, has given way to the Finnish Bistro. The new establishment, at the corner of Como and Carter Avenues, will retain the furnishings and fare that made Taste of Scandinavia a local landmark, said owner Soile Anderson.

It was just over two years ago that Taste of Scandinavia relocated to the southwest corner of Como and Carter, after being across the street in Milton Square. They took over the space formerly occupied by Manning's in the Park, where they were joined by Dunn Bros. Coffee.

Anderson sold Taste of Scandinavia in August. The business had three locations, and the new owners will maintain the North Oaks store and the Rice Street production facility.

Anderson, a Finnish native, started Taste of Scandinavia 13 years ago. "The business had gotten so big that I started to feel like I was losing the personal touch that's so important to me," she said.

So when she was approached about selling, she agreed—but insisted on keeping the Como Avenue store. "I love this neighborhood," she said, "and I wanted to keep doing what I'd



Finnish Bistro to page 11

### Park Midway Bank affirms local identity

by Dave Healy

A local landmark has a new look. On November 15, the St. Anthony Park Bank officially became Park Midway Bank. Bank President Rick Beeson said the name change "reflects what we've become—a bank that serves St. Anthony Park as well as the greater Midway area."

Beeson added that changing their name does not mean the bank is changing its service or core identity. "We want to continue being a community bank," he said. "Some community banks see growth as a way of positioning themselves for a sale.

We continue to grow but we're not interested in being acquired. This bank has a long-standing commitment to staying local."

Beeson noted that in the 16 years he has been at St. Anthony Park Bank, assets have grown from \$43 million to



Park Midway Bank to page 11

## Plastics recycling becomes economically viable

by Anne Holzman

Even though Eureka Recycling just picked up a heap of plastic bottles from your curbside, please don't rush out to buy more, say environmentalists.

St. Paul decided to pick up plastic, after years of resisting the trend, mostly to keep it out of the incinerator. Current methods of recycling plastic keep the air cleaner than incineration but still do little in the long run to slow the accumulation in landfills.

St. Paul's non-profit contractor, Eureka Recycling, started picking up plastic last month after buying its own trucks last year and setting up its own material recovery facility—to sort and store recycled materials—this year. Those changes made it possible to accommodate plastic.

Eureka accepts plastic bottles that have necks and that are imprinted with either a 1 or 2. A plastics broker, under a five-year contract with the city, finds buyers, which Eureka CEO Susan Hubbard said has become much easier in recent years.

"The plastic goes all over the place," she said, and gets used in products as diverse as window casings, toys and park benches. "The markets right now for plastics are fairly good," she said.

Markets notwithstanding, St. Paul had for years resisted consumer pressure to pick up plastic bottles, Hubbard said, because plastic "recycling" is still mostly "downcycling," getting

**"The plastic goes all over the place" and gets used in products as diverse as window casings, toys and park benches. The markets right now for plastics are fairly good."**

—Susan Hubbard  
Eureka Recycling

one more use out of the material before it goes to a landfill. True recycling would mean using the material over and over again for a similar product.

Since petroleum enjoys a heavy federal subsidy, Hubbard said, there's no incentive for bottle makers to recycle the plastic made from it.

In contrast to other materials, a bottle made from recycled plastic costs about a

penny more than one made from virgin plastic. Paper from St. Paul goes to Canadian paper mills and winds up in the Star Tribune; aluminum cans are used to make more cans.

"These bottles should be used again and again—in bottles," Hubbard said.

Nevertheless, Eureka and the city government finally concluded that recycling plastic was not only economically viable but environmentally preferable.

"We had to sit down and look at what was coming out of the incinerators," Hubbard said. "Plastic is the

absolute worst material you can burn."

And studies showed that St. Paul was using the same amount of plastic as cities that recycled it. "We don't think our refusal to recycle it has changed the world," she said.

What should concerned citizens do? Keep buying and recycling glass, Hubbard said, and help Eureka pass a bottle

## District 12 plan is topic for Dec. 15 community forum

by Dave Healy

The St. Anthony Park Community Council will sponsor a community forum at 7 p.m. on December 15 at the St. Anthony Park Elementary School cafeteria.

The purpose of the forum, according to Rose Gregoire, a District 12 board member, is for the council to get community input for the neighborhood's evolving district plan.

Gregoire was part of a task force that has been meeting over

the past year. The task force reviewed District 12's existing plan, which was created in 1983, as well as comments from a May 6, 2003 community meeting and the results of a 2003 neighborhood study done by David Lanegran, an urban geographer from Macalaster College. They then began sketching the outline of a new district plan, as well as a process

District 12 to page 12

**Park Bugle 2004 Holiday Shopping Guide inside!**

We encourage you to remove the guide, save it and bring it with you on your next shopping trip.

Plastics recycling to page 10



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## Como Park

A public meeting is scheduled for December 2, 6:30 p.m. at Shalom Home, 1554 Midway Parkway, to discuss options for regulating peddling and vending in the Midway Parkway-Snelling area during the State Fair. Resident participation is encouraged so that the community can come up with its own solutions to any problems.

## Falcon Heights

The City Council has ended the study period on organized collection by the Solid Waste Commission. The city now enters the discussion phase, scheduled to last until January 26, 2005.

A condensed report of the Solid Waste Commission's study on organized collection will be sent to residents. The entire report will be available on request, on the Internet, at the library and at City Hall. All residents are urged to review the report and let the council know their views and concerns.

The Community Playroom is a place where adults can bring infants and preschool children for recreational play and social interaction. It is not a drop-off day care center, but a place for children and their caregivers to play.

The playroom is located at Falcon Heights United Church of

Christ, 1795 Holton Street. Hours are 9 a.m. to noon, Wednesday and Friday. The cost is \$2 per child or \$3 per family.

Open gym will be held Saturday mornings from 10 a.m. to noon at Falcon Heights Elementary. The cost is \$1 per person.

## St. Anthony Park

A winter coat collection is being held at South St. Anthony Recreation Center through December 16. Bring new or used coats of all sizes to the center on Monday through Thursday, from 3-8 p.m. Coats will be distributed to the Minnesota Council of Churches, Hmong refugees and local St. Paul shelters. For more information call Nina at 649-5992.

The St. Paul City Council has approved a plan to purchase land for a housing complex for 120 men who are homeless or chronic alcoholics. The housing complex will be run by Catholic Charities and will be located on Capp Road just south of the railroad tracks and Energy Park Drive.

Members of the St. Anthony Park Community Council learned about the project by reading the newspaper. A letter expressing their displeasure with the way the decision had been made was sent to the mayor, City Council members, HRA/PED, Susan Kimberly, Catholic

Charities, the county commissioner and both city newspapers.

The letter states: "The St. Anthony Park Community Council is deeply troubled and disappointed by the complete disregard shown by the City of St. Paul, Council Member Benanav, HRA, PED, and Catholic Charities for the proper advisory role of St. Anthony Park Community Council regarding the St. Anthony/SRO Project. This is not a position statement on the merits of the proposed project, about which we have never been consulted."

Eureka Recycling is establishing an ad hoc group to recommend environmental policy to the city.

A task force will be formed to work with neighborhood ideas for beautification and traffic calming in the Hampden/Raymond area.

The Community Council has signed a "Good Neighbor Agreement" with Rock-Tenn Corporation. The agreement specifies ways in which both parties will cooperate to create a mutually beneficial relationship. A mutual goal reflected in the agreement is use of sustainable fuel sources, air emission reductions, waste reduction and pollution prevention.

—Susan Conner

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## The ecumenical enchantress of Raymond Avenue

by Natalie Zett

The diagonally-shaped building sports an awning with the number 898—its only signage. Various praying hands statues rest on its outside ledges, while a Madonna figurine near the entrance extends her hands in benediction to passers by.

Once through the glass door, a visitor is flanked by a contemporary Krishna on the left and an ample Buddha in repose on the right. Ceramic and plastic images of Christ, the saints, assorted Madonnas and several deities of undetermined origin complement the interior, begging the obvious question: What is this? A church, religious bookstore or New Orleans-style voodoo emporium are all possibilities. But no—it's a hair salon.

"This is no salon," corrects stylist Sarah Brown, who has operated her business out of the no-name shop at 898 Raymond Avenue for the past year. "It's a beauty shop. No frills; it's just the two chairs for Michael (Michael Padden, the stylist who joined Brown a few months ago) and me and that's it."

While concocting chemicals for a customer's hair foil, Brown is watched over by plaster statues of St. Therese of Lisieux (the Little Flower), a Madonna and Jesus.

Oblivious to denominational boundaries and barriers, Brown says she collects these items out of sheer love. "When I went out on my own, I wanted where I work to reflect who I am," she declares.

Born in St. Paul to parents who were Christian and Missionary Alliance missionaries, Brown got to see the world at an early age. "My dad's job was starting up churches, so we traveled everywhere."

"I lived as a teenager in Midland, Texas," she continues. "You know—the home of Bush. I loved it! The women had the best big hair, and on Sundays they'd all be smoking on the church steps." It was there Brown learned to love Gospel music and massive tent revivals.

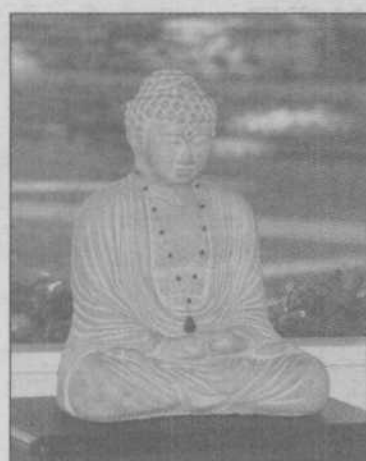
Brown's Texas stint may also have ignited the spark for her future profession, and when the time came she apprenticed as a stylist at Yosh for Hair in San Francisco. Later she returned to St. Paul, married, had two sons and honed her expertise at various salons in the Twin Cities. Given her background, spiritual seeking is second nature.

"Years ago, I started doing meditation and yoga, and found myself in a new way," she says. "I read the writings of Thich Nhat Hanh and found Buddhism to be the sister through which I could look at my own background. I mean, I'm an evangelical girl and always will be, but I appreciate what I can learn from other traditions."

Pointing to the Buddha statue, she says, "You know, my mother won't come to my shop because of that statue. They lived in New Zealand, where Buddhist converts to Christianity burned their Buddha statues, thinking they were somehow demonic." Clearly, Brown doesn't share that sentiment.

A couple of years ago, Brown was hit with a major challenge when her oldest son, now 19, was diagnosed with cancer. This plunged her into deep soul searching, and she left the Cathedral Hill salon where she had been for many years and

*Ecumenical enchantress to page 20*



Hair stylist Sarah Brown, along with Michael Padden (background) operates a beauty shop at 898 Raymond Avenue in south St. Anthony Park. The shop's furnishings reflect Brown's eclectic interests in religion and spirituality.

Photos by Natalie Zett





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## EDITORIAL

## A useful pot to put things in

Archaeologists are big on containers—pots, bowls, urns and the like. That's because containers are often artistic as well as utilitarian objects, and studying them can reveal both exigency and aesthetics.

We need containers because we need things to keep stuff in. The first containers were vessels for holding food and water, and those continue to fuel today's container industry. We moderns store our comestibles in a variety of containers, but more and more we use plastic.

Milk and cream were once sold in glass bottles, but no more. You can still get Coca Cola in glass, but you have to shop around to find it. Glass ketchup bottles are nearly extinct. Even the iconic Folgers coffee can has gone plastic.

And, of course, food and beverage containers are only one example. We also need containers for shampoo, laundry detergent, motor oil, paint, glue and a host of other household products, most of which are packaged in plastic.

Plastic has a leg up on its rivals—paper, glass, metal—because it's durable, light and comparatively cheap to produce. A truck full of plastic ketchup bottles weighs less than one with glass bottles, making the former cheaper to transport, and those plastic bottles won't break in a fender bender—or in a drop from your dinner table.

But a container's life span has four phases, and it's the last one where plastic runs aground. A container must be (a) manufactured, (b) transported, (c) used and ... then what?

The best containers are those that can be reused. The reason ancient pottery was often beautiful as well as functional is because it had a long life span. It was worthwhile to pay attention to design and decoration of an object that would be used and reused indefinitely.

Most plastic containers, on the other hand, are used only once and then discarded. In that respect, plastic differs little from other modern materials. We don't reuse soup or pop cans, or the boxes that held laundry soap or the glass jars that were once full of strawberry jam.

If something isn't reused, perhaps it can be recycled. But recycling runs up against the same economic issues that govern initial production and distribution. Recycling a container means getting it from your house to someplace where it can be processed, which involves transportation, which involves costs. Turning a container into something else—either by reducing it to its constituent parts or turning it into something new—means processing it, which also has costs that must be recouped through sale of the recycled product.

One problem with recycling plastic is that it's not actually plastic but plastics. So figuring out another use for the stuff means separating one kind from another. Supposedly that task is made easier by a numbering system. Locally, for example, Eureka Recycling has said it will pick up plastic bottles that have a neck and that are marked with a 1 or 2.

But inevitably, some people won't hear that part of the message, or they'll be genuinely confused by labels that say "#7—compatible with #2," or they'll legitimately wonder what constitutes a "neck." Is there a better way?

The consumer's bible has its own holy trinity: reduce, reuse, recycle. It's best to reduce the number of containers one uses. Next best is to reuse. Recycling is a last resort. So what's a consumer to do?

The answer's pretty obvious: quit drinking everything but water, eat only what comes from your garden, wash everything with homemade soap.

There, that wasn't so hard, was it?

## Support teachers, schools, kids

Recent conversations about public education have focused on test scores, star ratings and lack of funding. I was delighted to see a letter in the November issue of the Park Bugle that highlighted our community's involvement in a fundraiser for St. Anthony Park Elementary School's art residency program.

It is hopeful to see our society taking a part in developing skills in our community's youth that spread beyond standardized tests.

Each year public school teachers hear about the need to raise test scores. At the same time, they are facilitating a community of learners that come from all over the world.

Relating with people from different backgrounds and tolerating the differences in each other is a skill that many adults lack yet one our nation's children

are developing every day in school. Still the emphasis remains on test scores, and the responsibility of educating seems to lie solely with teachers.

When are the rest of us going to participate in educating citizens who will become our nation's future? Teachers are hounded to increase test scores but receive no recognition for developing confident and caring citizens. How are we participating in the education of our youth?

Public schools create our future. Thank you to those people who donated to the St. Anthony Park art residency program. You have taken part in every citizen's responsibility: educating our youth. Programs such as the art residency help our students succeed in school.

How can we support teachers' attempts to build academic skills, develop caring citizens and help children appreciate the art in our world?

We must find ways we can fulfill our responsibility to educate our nation's future.

Jill Jorgensen  
St. Paul

## Thanks to Muffuletta

The St. Anthony Park Elementary School community thanks Muffuletta and its parent company, Parasole, for their generous contribution to our art program.

When the local restaurant decided to change its art work at their Como Avenue location, it held a silent auction of all the old framed pieces of art hanging on the walls. That silent auction netted \$1,000, which Muffuletta donated to the school's art program.

Community is a valuable thing and a great benefit to our kids. Thanks Muffuletta!

Parents and staff at  
St. Anthony Park  
Elementary School

Dear friends and neighbors,

*Note: This is not a letter about politics. Political campaigns and ads have taken much of our time and attention in recent days, but the rest of our lives keep moving along. Politics or not, one of the reliable benefits in our St. Anthony Park, Lauderdale, Falcon Heights and Como neighborhoods is the Park Bugle, which comes to our front steps and local businesses every month. We think it is the best neighborhood newspaper in the Twin Cities. People living around you write it, edit it, sell ads for it and produce it.*

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Carolyn Nestingen  
Bugle Board of Directors

## Park Bugle

Office: 2190 Como Avenue

Mailing address: Box 8126, St. Paul, MN 55108

www.parkbugle.org

phone: 646-5369 fax: 646-0159 e-mail: editor@parkbugle.org

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Advertising Representatives

Raymond Yates & Dan Schultz / Voice: 646-5369 Fax: 646-0159

Park Bugle Staff

Editor ..... Dave Healy, 646-5369  
Production ..... Steve Parker, 489-0993  
Subscriptions and Classifieds ..... Raymond Yates, 646-5369  
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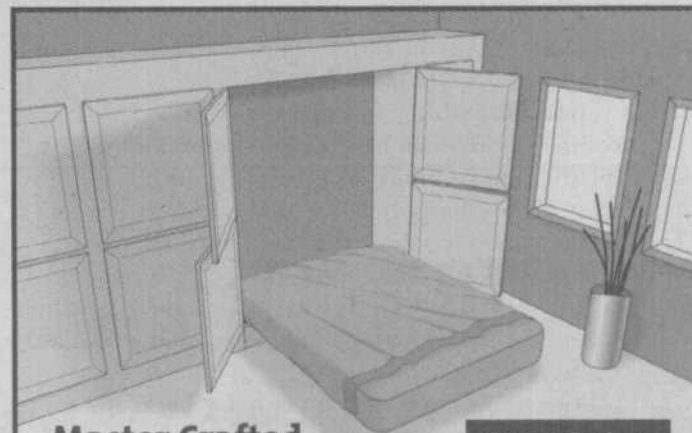
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## No bones about it

by Kristi Curry Rogers

Greetings, "No bones" readers! I write this week in a state of sheer weariness. Who knew that the job of a paleontologist would include 4:30 a.m. phone calls for TV interviews?

This week I've been up at the crack of dawn, spreading the word about the cool new exhibit at the Science Museum of Minnesota—Chinasaurus: The Great Dinosaurs of China.

For this week's column I thought I'd give an insider's view of Chinasaurus. Kids, with this information you can knock the socks off your parents when you tour the exhibit with them by dazzling them with your knowledge of dinosaurs.

There are a few standouts in Chinasaurus that are really weird and unforgettable. Perhaps the most bizarre dinosaur in this exhibit is a large duckbilled dinosaur called Tsintaosaurus. Though it was named after the city of Tsingtao in Shandong Province, it's more commonly known as the "unicorn dinosaur" because of the strange spike on the top of its head.

Duckbilled dinosaurs are known for their unique head gear, but this spike is markedly different from any other dino. In fact, some experts think it isn't a spike at all, but just the nose bones flipped up like a toilet seat because of preservation, and not

because of anatomy.

Chinasaurus also includes two Mamenchisaurus, one adult and one juvenile. Mamenchisaurus is a member of the group of plant-eating behemoths also known as sauropods.

Mamenchisaurus is cool for two big reasons. It grew to reach its enormous adult size in only 8-10 years, about the same rate of growth that modern mammals and birds exhibit, and it has the longest neck of any land-living animal ever: around 30 feet.

Some of my favorite dinosaurs in the Chinasaurus exhibit include two stars of "Jurassic Park": Velociraptor, the small, vicious predator with the slashing claw on its big toe, and Dilophosaurus, a medium-sized meat-eater with a double crest on its skull.

The Velociraptor in Chinasaurus is actual size, and significantly smaller than depicted in "Jurassic Park." In the movie, animators combined a couple of other larger bodied, closely related dinosaurs (Deinonychus and Utahraptor) to create an even scarier predator.

Chances are, if you'd met Velociraptor out on walk in the ancient Gobi Desert, you'd probably have been able to hold it back with one hand!

Check out the toes of Velociraptor in the exhibit and look for that menacing, slashing

claw. In the exhibit, the claw is wrongly positioned on the middle toe rather than the big toe.

Sometimes paleontologists change their view of how specimens should be put together once more complete skeletons are found. This dinosaur was mounted in China before paleontologists were sure where that toe claw fit.

Dilophosaurus is another "Jurassic Park" meanie. In the movie, it is depicted with the ability to scare off enemies by extending a colorful frill around its head and spitting poisonous venom.

These unusual features are simply another instance of artistic license. Paleontologists do not think that Dilophosaurus could spit or that it had a frill, but the double crest on the top of its head is a display feature that might have been used to attract mates, recognize members of its own species or intimidate rival males.

So now that you're an expert on the facts of Chinasaurus, don't forget to stop by and visit the Science Museum of Minnesota. The exhibit is included in your regular admission fee, and is only at the museum for a limited time. Study up on these cool Chinese fossils and wow your friends and family.

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## John Shepard promotes watershed education

by Lisa Steinmann

As you raked great, crackling piles of leaves last month, were you thinking about the watershed? During the soaking rains of late October, did you think about the water filtering through the lawn, puddling and running down gutters and drains, flowing to nearby lakes and rivers?

John Shepard, St. Anthony Park resident and assistant director of Hamline University's Center for Global Environmental Education, would like to increase the public's awareness of the importance of watersheds.

"Everyone lives in a watershed," he pointed out. "Rivers are among the most endangered ecosystems worldwide because they are so easily impacted."

In an effort to dramatize this truth, Shepard is involved with an ambitious watershed education project through the Center for Global Environmental Education called Waters to the Sea. He has produced two interactive CD-ROMS intended for middle school classrooms. "Waters to the

Sea: Rivers of the Upper Mississippi" (2000) explored the rivers of the upper Midwest. "Waters to the Sea: The Chattahoochee River" (2004) is the second in a series that will eventually explore rivers and water ecosystems all over the United States.

Remarkably, the Chattahoochee River, which flows from Georgia to Florida, transported Shepard to Bristol, England in October. "Waters to the Sea: The Chattahoochee River" was nominated for an award at the biannual Wildscreen Festival. The festival is considered the world's premiere event for nature and wildlife media production. It attracts more industry delegates from more countries than any other event.

Shepard, representing Hamline's Center for Global Environmental Education, found it to be "an incredible thrill" to participate in the festival, where other finalists included industry giants such as the BBC, the

National Geographic Society and the Discovery Channel. He attended workshops and sessions with an audience representing over 40 other countries. Keynote speakers at the festival this year included renowned primatologist Jane Goodall; Richard Leakey, conservationist and son of famous archeologist Louis Leakey; and filmmaker David Attenborough.

The Chattahoochee River CD-ROM that Shepard produced and directed received a Panda Award, the wildlife film industry's equivalent of a Hollywood Oscar.

Shepard had several roles in this latest project. He developed the concept, wrote the script, produced and directed the CD-ROM itself, and even did some camera work on the project.

As a veteran of many wilderness trips, especially in northern Minnesota, Shepard said he especially enjoyed the time filming on the Chattahoochee

John Shepard to page 14

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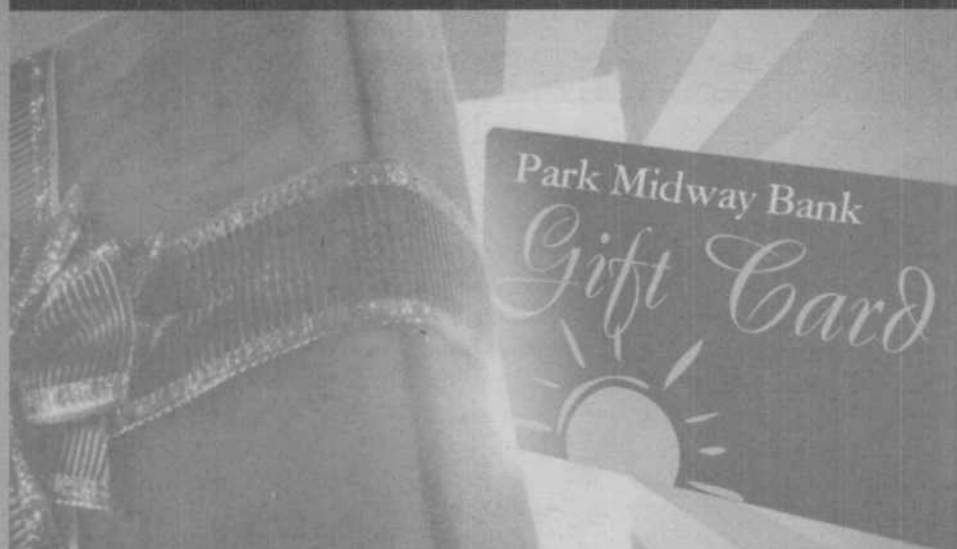
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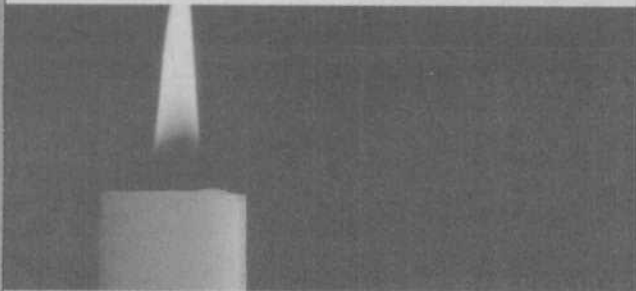
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Carol Schoen accompanies singing at St. Anthony Park Home's weekly Sunday service.

## Carol Schoen proves to be whiz at pulpit supply

by Michelle Christianson

How would you like to find a new pastor every week for a Sunday service? Carol Schoen does it, and she plays the piano for that service to boot. She does it because she loves the parishioners—the residents of St. Anthony Park Home.

It's not like Schoen has to start from scratch every Sunday. She has a list of about 15 people who are willing to pick the hymns, give the sermon and say the prayers at the Home's weekly nondenominational service. But sometimes, especially in the summer, it's hard to find people, so occasionally she handles both piano and pulpit duties herself.

The program started about 25 years ago when Rev. Alvin Rogness, then visitation pastor at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, realized that—unlike the other nearby nursing homes that were affiliated with churches—Commonwealth Home (as it was then named) had no religious services.

Rogness asked John Tracy Anderson to play for the services, and both continued to arrive at the home most every Sunday until Rogness retired and Anderson died. In 1999, Schoen, who had substituted for Anderson, took over the jobs of scheduling and playing piano.

Schoen schedules a month of speakers at a time. Most of them are ordained, she said, though some are not, and each person brings his or her personality to

the task. Some, she noted, run the service just as they did when they were serving a parish. Others are more informal, sharing thoughts about their life experiences and families.

Wendell Frerichs, former Luther Seminary professor, has been conducting services longer and more often than anyone, Schoen said. Most volunteers serve about once every three months. These include Luther Seminary students, some of whom are running an entire service for the first time.

Rev. Robert Jamieson owns a communion set, and he or others serve communion about once a month.

Residents sing from large-print hymnals—or from memory. Both hymns and readings tend to be familiar, and the Lord's Prayer is always a part of the service. Sometimes, Schoen said, even those who don't respond to anything else will be able to mouth those well-known phrases.

Residents who come to the Sunday services are appreciative. "Sunday would be a long, sad day without church," said one woman. Another added, "I feel it is the hand of God that brings church to us every Sunday."

Schoen doesn't have to worry if she must miss a Sunday. Various residents fill in when she's gone. Martha, who was a church organist for 60 years, can take over piano duties. Eldon sometimes sings solos.

Services are supplemented by visits from Sunday School classes at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church. Each class comes once a year to help pass out songbooks and join in the service. The children sometimes make cards to pass out to the residents, and their presence adds liveliness and joy that the residents might otherwise miss, Schoen said.

The services used to be held in the Home's first-floor lounge, but now they take place in the third-floor lounge, which is less likely to be interrupted. The room is bright and open—"a vast improvement," said Schoen. "It's more church-like."

Schoen knows all the regulars and tries to learn a new name each week. "It's the highlight of my week," she said.

She visits parishioners during the week as often as possible. The only hard part, she said, is when she sees someone going downhill.

St. Anthony Park Home is owned by John Barker. Schoen credited him for upgrading the physical plant and maintaining a caring and competent staff—and for supporting the Sunday services she organizes, as well as a Catholic service held during the week.

Anyone who would like to learn more about the Sunday services at St. Anthony Park Home or be a participant should contact Schoen at 646-3869.





Preparations have begun for a new cafeteria at the Hubert H. Humphrey Job Corps Center on Snelling Avenue in the Como Park neighborhood. Here workers lay new storm drains and sewer lines.

The new building will sit in the center of the campus, the former site of Bethel College and Seminary. The project will eventually include a new child development center, which will be located in a building not currently being used. The project follows several community meetings over the past two years, as well as U.S. Department of Labor funding approval.

The HHH Job Corps Center houses and trains 300-350 students a year, and currently ranks in the top five of centers nationwide for performance on employment, training and educational goals.

Photos by Dan Cherryhomes



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On October 30, St. Paul City Council Member Jay Benanav was joined by Kaimay Yuen Terry in a ceremonial ribbon cutting for the Chinese American Association of Minnesota Chinese Dance Theater's grand opening at their new location at 1410 Energy Park Drive. Terry is the organization's capital campaign chair. The festivities also included fireworks and dragon dancing. The new facility includes dance studios, classrooms and administrative offices. The Chinese Dance Theater offers all levels of Chinese dance classes, as well as traditional and Western painting instruction. Plans are being made to offer yoga classes beginning in January.

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## 4-H News

by Bobby Ragoonanan

Halloween is over, but really Halloween is every day, in heart and spirit.

While you read this report, think "My, he sure is doing a good job even though he has a pile of homework." Yes, I'm in middle school now, and there's a lot of homework.

When we started our November 4-H meeting, it was cold. We played hook tag to warm ourselves up. It sort of worked—until we sat down for the actual meeting.

Our response to roll call was to tell what we were for Halloween. I thought this was dumb (no offense to the person

who came up with the idea) because we'd had a Halloween party and knew perfectly well what everyone dressed up as.

We had four demonstrations at our last meeting. Emma showed how to make Sonic Power by blending lemonade, ice cream and ice. John described how to care for a rabbit. Keith showed how to use a lasana compass. (I'm sorry, Keith, if I spelled this wrong.) Josephine demonstrated how to make paper snowflakes.

At our next meeting we'll make tie blankets for charity.

Remember, anyone can come to 4-H. You don't have to live on a farm and own a cow. Just show

up at 6:45 p.m. on the second Monday of the month at Lauderdale City Hall (the ugly brown building on Walnut Street) with nothing but a radical and friendly attitude.

You'll notice I have not mentioned the name of my school. I cannot tell you. Some pencils are breaking the peace treaty and are out to kill me, so I cannot reveal my five-days-a-week-except-for-breaks whereabouts. For a complete summary of my pencil adventures or a recital of the peace treaty, see me when you come to 4-H.

### Plastics recycling from page 1

bill, either state or national, as soon as possible.

If you can't avoid plastic, at least try to avoid the worst pollutant, polyvinyl chloride (PVC), which has a number 3 inside the triangle on the bottom of the package.

And do put your plastic bottles out on the curb for Eureka to pick up.

Experience in other cities shows we're pretty good about putting out our milk bottles, Hubbard said, but it's hard to get folks to bring the shampoo bottles down from the upstairs bathroom, and even harder to snag those drink bottles bought on a road trip and tossed in the next convenient garbage can.

"Carry those bottles home" and recycle them, Hubbard urged.

Glass recycling has hit its own bumps in the road in recent years. Sand, the main ingredient in glass, is cheap and plentiful, so cities don't get much return for picking up glass; it's also heavy to haul and needs sorting by color.

Aluminum, by contrast, is made from expensive bauxite, the supply of which may run out in the next half-century. Aluminum is widely considered a recycling success story, but cities often

debate whether to recycle glass.

The increasing price of petroleum appears to be driving up the cost of making virgin plastic, Hubbard said, but city revenue isn't the only factor we should consider in deciding what to recycle.

Precisely because it's cheap and plentiful, she said, silicon for glass is the material we should keep "mining"—and using and recycling.

Meanwhile, since plastic is ubiquitous, concerned citizens worldwide are trying to pass new bottle bills—laws requiring a deposit for a bottle or can—or add newly popular beverages, such as water and sports drinks, to existing laws.

Bottle bill attempts in Minnesota have so far failed, which Hubbard attributed to campaign contributions and heavy lobbying by soft drink bottlers and plastics manufacturers.

With states reluctant to stand up to the bottlers, attention has turned recently to national efforts.

U.S. Senator Jim Jeffords introduced the Beverage Producer Responsibility Act in November 2003. The bill covers a wide variety of beverages, requires each beverage brand to achieve 80 percent recycling and allows the

deposit value to rise with inflation.

According to the Container Recycling Institute in Arlington, Va., "An 80 percent national recycling rate for beverage containers would save the equivalent of more than 40 million barrels of oil a year, or enough electricity to meet the needs of about 7 million households for a year."

A newsletter of Bring Recycling, Eureka's counterpart in Eugene, Ore., cites an estimated 10,000 jobs that could be created by a national bottle bill.

While it fights for local and national bottle bills, Eureka will continue to pick up and find markets for our plastic bottles.

"We are only capturing 18 percent of plastic bottles that we use in the United States," Hubbard said.

Citizens can help by seeking out other types of containers and by recycling the plastic bottles they're stuck with. Imperfect though it is, recycling does save energy, cut down on natural resource depletion and keep the air clean, Hubbard said.

"It's bigger than just keeping it out of the trash."

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## Finnish Bistro from page 1

been doing. Now I will have more time to devote to the bistro."

Because she sold the Taste of Scandinavia name, Anderson needed to come up with something new to call her St. Anthony Park restaurant. "Finnish Bistro" reflects her background and the kind of European tradition she plans to continue on Como Avenue.

That means baked goods, soups, salads, sandwiches and other breakfast and lunch items, "typical Scandinavian/European food," as Anderson described it. "And now I'll have more time for special orders," she added, "plus a larger selection of European breads."

Beyond seeing more of Anderson in the store, customers haven't noticed big changes since the restaurant changed names. Most of the staff has stayed on, and the bistro's relationship with Dunn Bros. will continue. "That partnership has worked very well," Anderson said. "People enjoy being able to have a cup of great coffee along with a pastry."

Besides running the Finnish Bistro, Anderson is part of Deco Catering, which has been in business for over 20 years. They make the soups and salads served at the bistro, and they provide a variety of fare for special events such as parties and corporate events. Deco also has a kosher catering license.

Finnish Bistro is open from 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday. Their phone number is 645-9181. Deco Catering can be reached at 612-623-4477 or info@decocatering.com.

## Park Midway Bank from page 1

almost \$200 million. Three years ago, the bank opened a branch location at 2171 University Avenue. That facility joined the main office at 2265 Como Avenue and a drive-up location at 2300 Como.

That kind of growth, said Beeson, has made the bank attractive to large chains. "I get calls regularly asking if we're for sale," he said. "I always say no."

St. Anthony Park Bank has drawn attention from other entities as well. In August, the U.S. Small Business Administration named the bank its "Outstanding Small Business Lender of the Year" for banks with less than \$200 million in assets. And the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation recently gave the bank an "Outstanding" rating, as part of the FDIC's evaluation under the Community Reinvestment Act, a designation, said Beeson, given to fewer than 15 percent of banks nationwide.

Park Midway Bank will continue to be affiliated with two community banks in St. Paul and Minneapolis—University Bank and Franklin Bank. The three institutions share some administrative functions but operate as independent entities, an arrangement that will continue after the name change.

"For a business like ours," said Beeson, "growth is a continual balancing act. We want to continue increasing our assets while at the same time remaining true to the principles and practices that brought us to where we are. We believe that big banks are unable to provide the kind of personalized service we offer, especially to small businesses, nonprofits and the community."

Beeson noted that many banks are expanding their services in the suburbs, but he affirmed a commitment to the city. "We think the city is the place to be. We have plenty to do right here."

That means things like the recent \$1.25 million bridge loan for biotech development near University Avenue and Highway 280. It means continuing involvement with local projects, such as the Habitat for Humanity house that bank personnel helped build last spring. It means continuing support of a light rail Central Corridor along University Avenue, as well as various initiatives being pursued by the Midway Chamber of Commerce.

Beeson acknowledged that some of the changes the bank has instituted recently are concessions to a less stable world. "We can't be as trusting as we once were," he said, pointing to such things as the increasing use of thumb prints for identification, protective glass for tellers and a greater police presence at the bank's three locations.

But despite those changes, Beeson said he is optimistic about the bank and the neighborhoods it serves. "This is right where we want to be. St. Anthony Park and the Midway is a great location, and we're happy to part of this vital area."

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### District 12 from page 1

and timeline for completing it.

There is some urgency for St. Anthony Park to complete its plan over the next 6-8 months, according to Melissa Mathews, District 12 executive director. That's because at the end of 2005, the St. Paul City Council will "sunset" all existing neighborhood plans.

Plans are created by the city's 19 districts, submitted to the city's Planning Commission and eventually approved by the City

Council. They then become part of St. Paul's comprehensive plan for the entire city, which is used to guide development and set priorities.

A district plan can cover everything from housing to zoning to transportation to energy use to parks to schools to police and fire protection.

"The way I think of it," said Mathews, "is that a district plan is a community's long-range vision of what it wants for the

neighborhood."

She added that an effective plan is both defensive and proactive.

"A neighborhood might appeal to its plan to thwart a particular development project that residents and businesses believe is contrary to their vision for their community. But they might also use it to pursue a certain kind of development or service that currently is lacking."

The December 15 event is

the first of three forums the Community Council has planned. The second will be in April and the third in June.

By July, the council hopes to have a final draft ready to submit to the Planning Commission. A final public meeting would be held next fall, with City Council approval in December.

Assisting the council in writing the plan will be Dan Petrik, a recent graduate in landscape architecture and urban planning at the University of Minnesota. Petrik will be paid out of a grant provided by the St. Anthony Park Community Foundation.

Other than Petrik and Mathews, the work of organizing and overseeing the planning process is being done by volunteers—District 12 board members and other community residents with particular interest or expertise in the areas covered by the district plan.

Gregoire noted that when District 12 developed its 1983 plan, they had more assistance from the city. But city planners are in short supply now, so

neighborhoods are on their own to update their plans.

At the December 15 forum, community members will have a chance to brainstorm about the community's strengths and needs. The council is interested in hearing both broad goals and specific interests. Small- and large-group discussions will be held.

**"A neighborhood might appeal to its plan to thwart a particular development project that residents and businesses believe is contrary to their vision for their community. But they might also use it to pursue a certain kind of development or service that currently is lacking."**

—Melissa Mathews

representation from the neighborhood.

"There's a lot of expertise in this community," she said, "and more diversity than some people realize. We hope to draw on all of that at these forums."

All St. Anthony Park residents and business people are invited to the December 15 forum. Coffee and desserts will be provided by Finnish Bistro.

Anyone unable to attend is welcome to submit comments to the Community Council office: 890 Cromwell Ave., 55114 or melissa@sapcc.org.

### TIS' THE SEASON AT MICAWBER'S!

Monday, November 29th Robyn Feld will talk about her compilation which is an alzheimer's caregivers journal.

Tuesday, November 30th Arvonne Fraser will discuss a newly published book that she co-edited entitled, "Developing Power: How Women Transformed International Development."

Saturday, December 11 Michael Dregni discusses his new book, "Django" Music will accompany the presentation.

Wednesday, December 15th Evelina Chao reads from her memoir "Yeh Yeh's House."

Thursday, December 16th Jon and Gretchen Kresl Hassler will talk about their book, "Stories Teachers Tell."

Saturday, December 11  
From 1:00 - 4:00 o'clock members of Dunquin Irish Trio will be joining us again playing American and Irish seasonal music.

All events are at 7:00 pm unless otherwise noted



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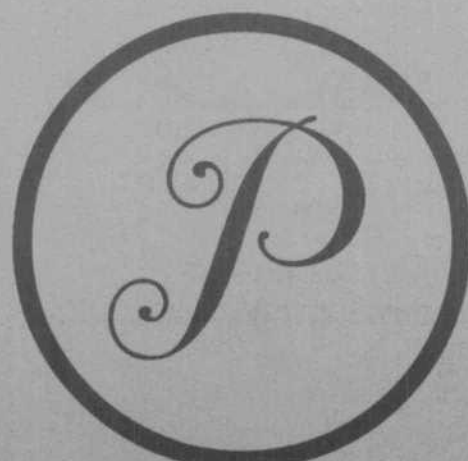
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# e t c e t e r a

## Arts Events

"Seasons of the Heart," recent watercolors by St. Anthony Park artist **Peg Houck**, opened at the Undercroft Gallery on November 21 and continues through January 8.

The gallery (645-3058) is located in St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 2136 Carter Avenue. Hours are 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday-Friday.



Peg Houck

The Undercroft Gallery is soliciting entries for a winter multimedia show entitled "Tasteful Art-Food is the Inspiration," which will run from January 9 to February 19, 2005. Entry forms are due December 30. For more information, call 645-3058.

"Transition," an exhibition of contemporary basketry by **Tressa Sularz**, opened November 12 at the Raymond Avenue Gallery and continues through December 17.

Sularz works out of a studio in the country near New Richmond, Wisconsin. Two of her baskets have been purchased by the University of Minnesota's Goldstein Gallery for their permanent collection.

The Raymond Avenue Gallery (644-9200) is located at 761 Raymond Avenue. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. M-F.

## Holiday Events

Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" provides the theme for English teas in December at **Lady Elegant's Tea Room**, 2230 Carter Avenue in Milton Square.

The events include food inspired by Mr. Fezziwig's ball and the Cratchet family's dinner, premium loose-leaf teas, dramatic readings and door prizes.

The six-course teas are offered by reservation only on December 10-11 and 17-18 at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. Call 645-6676 for reservations.

The Perfect Little Spa and Salon, 2301 Como Avenue, Suite 102, will host a holiday celebration on December 10 and 11 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. There will be free food and beverages and a free gift with purchase.

Como Park's Marjorie McNeely Conservatory joins the Bacchus Society in hosting a **chocolate and wine tasting** event on December 2 from 6-9 p.m. Guests will also get a sneak preview of the conservatory's wine-themed holiday poinsettia show. Cost for members of the Como Zoo and Conservatory Society or the Bacchus Society is \$40 per person. Nonmember tickets are \$45 per person. For reservations, call 487-8229.

The Textile Center, a national center for fiber art, will hold a holiday sale through December 31 at 3000 University Avenue SE, Suite 100.

Hours are M-Th 12-7 p.m., F 12-4 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sun. 12-4 p.m. For more information, call 612-436-0464.

**Gifts for Seniors** provides donated and personally delivered holiday gifts to isolated senior citizens in the eight metro counties. The program is sponsored by KLBB Radio and the Hennepin County Human Services Department.

The Twin City Linnea Home is a registered member of this program. For gift suggestions, visit [www.GiftsForSeniors.org](http://www.GiftsForSeniors.org) or call Kristine at 612-348-5835.

## Book Group

A book group that was started by members of St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, but that is open to the wider community, will meet at 6:30 p.m. on December 6 at **Micawber's Bookstore** to discuss "Under the Banner of Heaven" by Jon Krakauer.

On January 3, the group will discuss "Stones from the River" by Ursula Hegi.

## Music Classes

Hearplay, early childhood music and movement classes, offers free demonstration classes at St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church on Saturday, December 4 at 10:30 a.m. and Tuesday, December 7 at 6:30 p.m.

Classes are for children ages 0-5 and their parents or other caregivers. They are taught by Laura Dillon. To reserve a spot at one of the demonstration classes, call Dillon (612-729-6504) by December 1.

## Book Sale Donation

On Thursday, December 2, Micawber's Bookstore (2238 Carter Avenue) will donate 10 percent of the day's sales to the St. Anthony Park School Association. This annual fundraiser benefits students at St. Anthony Park Elementary.

## People

**Drew Henry**, a senior at Como Park Senior High School, has been selected as one of 20 state finalists for the Wendy's High School Heisman Award. Each

state selects one male and one female student for the national competition. Twelve national finalists will travel to New York City for the Heisman Weekend Celebration.

Drew lives in St. Anthony Park and is the son of Donald and Sandra Henry.

On November 8 musicians from **Murray Junior High School**

participated in a master class by Brian Johnson, second principal horn player for the Minnesota Orchestra.

Students in attendance were trumpet players Mariam Davies, Linnea Holman, Amelia Kahn, Hannah Nauen, Jane Schumacher and Brittany Wichser; trombonist Zachery VanCleve; and Avrell Gibson, baritone horn.

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#### John Shepard from page 7

River, in a canoe with cameras mounted to the bow and stern. This kind of hands-on research is probably what made this project an award winner, Shepard said.

The CD-ROM features a virtual journey down the river, led by an historic character who guides users from prehistoric to the present time, with a study of land stewardship and its impact

on water quality.

The production is a collaboration between the Center for Global Environmental Education's own production resources and a network of regional specialists in animation, video production, acting and programming. Over the years their projects have won dozens of awards.

Hamline's Center for Global Environmental Education was started 14 years ago. Its first project was an education program related to Will Steger's famous expedition to the North Pole. In addition to project-based learning programs, the Center offers a graduate program in environmental education, does media production and provides public education, which includes projects like Solstice River Dance, a performance that takes place annually at sites along the Mississippi River to celebrate the summer solstice.



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## The Birdman Of Lauderdale by Clay Christensen

On a recent Friday afternoon, I saw some really great birds in the neighborhood: hawks, eagles, owls, falcons and a chicken. You may have guessed that I was at the University of Minnesota Raptor Center. But what about the chicken? More on that later.

My wife, Jean, and I took our grandsons, Koert, 8, and Spencer, 6, to the Raptor Center as a rainy day diversion on their recent overnight visit to our house. We arrived just in time for a guided tour, led by Scott Schmidt, a U of M senior from Marshall, Minnesota, majoring in conservation and wildlife management.

First we viewed the indoor exhibits: bald eagle, red-tailed hawk, turkey vulture. Then we moved outdoors, where we found the most remarkable birds.

First was a golden eagle, so named for the golden sheen on the back of its neck. I've seen a few migrating over Duluth's Hawk Ridge in the fall and one in mid-winter near La Crosse, Wisconsin. But this up-close-and-personal view was especially dramatic. What a majestic creature.

We observed the differences in coloration of a male and female American kestrel, the smallest falcon and one of the few raptors with color differences between the sexes. It's been said that a determined field mouse can give a kestrel a run for its money. They usually take on larger insects, dragonflies, small vertebrates (lizards, snakes, frogs, salamanders) and small mammals. Occasionally they'll capture another bird.

One of the red-tailed hawks we saw was a Krider's red-tail, a light-morph form. When I first came upon one of these beauties in southwestern Minnesota, I was stumped. It usually has a white

head, white undersides with no typical red-tail bellyband, and a tail that ranges from pink to white with a rufous wash at the tip.

Another enclosure housed a young barn owl that has imprinted on humans and thus cannot be released to the wild. The full name of this bird is the common barn owl, but there's nothing common about it in my mind. I've never seen one in nature.

They used to occur frequently in far southern Minnesota, and one was seen in Dakota County a few years ago. But they are declining due to habitat loss as grasslands and farmland yield to suburbanization. This white-faced owl gives a shrill, rasping hiss that, in the middle of the night, would probably set your hair on end.

Next we came upon an enclosure that we had to search carefully to see a couple of eastern screech owls. They were hidden in plain sight.

Other raptors in the outdoor exhibit included bald eagles, great horned owls, a barred owl and peregrine falcons. About halfway through our tour, I noticed that, as Spencer came to each cage, he looked at the bird and said a quiet, "Hi." It seemed he was just being courteous. I found it touching.

After the tour of the outdoor pens, we returned inside. Jean asked whether they had any saw-whet owls in treatment. Scott said they did and led us into one of the large open classrooms. There on a table sat a large wooden box, and inside, on a small arched perch, a tiny saw-whet owl sat staring at us. At Scott's request, we kept our distance and stood staring back at that elfish creature. I'm very glad that Jean asked.

And that brought us to the chicken. Her name is Olivia. Scott

let the boys feed her some cracked corn. I think Olivia's role is to be the subject of the song, "One of these birds is not like the other."

Just think of all the ways a chicken is not like a raptor. The chicken is heavy with small wings. Its beak is designed for pecking the ground rather than tearing flesh. Its claws can scratch the ground but not grasp prey. In short, there's nothing raptor-like about this bird.

To see some really great raptors (and Olivia, too), stop by the Raptor Center. It's located at 1920 Fitch Avenue on the U of M's St. Paul campus and is open Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, noon to 4 p.m. (closed Mondays). Volunteer-guided tours run almost continually. It's a chance to see some beautiful birds up close and personal. I'll be back.

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## Music

### Coffee Grounds

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- Aural Dimensions (jazz trio)  
December 3, 8pm
- "The Chestnut Pan"  
Reading and book signing by  
Don Horton  
December 4, call for  
more info

- Steve Harlan Marks  
(folk rock)  
December 4, 8pm

- Open Mick with  
Bill Hammond  
December 5, 6pm

- Bethel and Northwestern College  
poetry reading  
December 8, 7pm

- "Holiday Fun"  
Storytelling for children with  
Pam Schweitzer  
December 9, 10:15am

- The Mamas  
Holiday Party Singalong  
December 10, 7pm

- Minnesota Guitar Society  
Open Stage  
December 11, 8pm

- Storytelling for older kids and  
adults with host Rob Jersak  
December 11, 8pm

- "The Chestnut Pan"  
Reading and book signing with  
Don Horton  
December 12, call for more info

- Storytelling for children  
December 13, 2:30pm

- Music and movement for children  
December 16, 10am

- Eric Addington (singer/songwriter)  
December 17, 7pm

- "The Worst Gift Ever"  
Family storytelling  
December 18, 10:30am

- Open mic with Bill Hammond  
December 19, 6pm

- Real Book Jazz  
December 20, 7pm

- Lauren Redpath  
December 23, 7pm

- Coffee Grounds Writers Club  
December 27, 7pm

- Bill Cagley's Old Time  
Music Showcase  
December 30, 7pm

### Ginkgo Coffeehouse

721 N. Snelling Ave., 645-2677

- Charlie Macquire  
December 2, 7:30pm

- Bob Bovee and Gail Heil  
December 9, 7:30pm

- Kris Delmhorst with Mark Erelli  
December 16, 7:30pm

- Children's Art and Story Hour  
Mondays and Thursdays, 10am

- Bluegrass and Oldtime Jam Session  
Fourth Wednesday, 7pm

- Open Stage  
First and third Wednesdays,  
6pm sign-up

- Children's Art and Story Hour  
Each Thursday, 10am

### The New Folk Collective

293-9021

- James Keelaghan  
December 4, 7:30pm  
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## Performing Arts

### Como Park High School

740 W. Rose Ave., 293-8800

- "A Christmas Carol"  
Benefit performance by the Actors  
Theater of Minnesota  
Accompanied by an Olde English  
holiday dinner and live Celtic music  
Wigington Pavilion, Harriet Island,  
St. Paul  
December 2, doors at 6pm

- Como Park High School Choir  
Concert  
"I've Got the Music in Me"  
December 6, 7pm

## Visual Arts

### Anodyne Artist Company

825 Carleton St., 642-1684

- "It Could be Worse! Or, Love at  
Frostbite" December 1, 2, 3, 4, 9,  
10, 11, 16, 17, 18  
All performances at 7:30pm except  
December 4, at 1pm

- Art... what is it?  
Each third Thursday  
Doors at 7pm  
Performance starts 7:30pm

### Ginkgo in the Park

2300 Como Ave., 644-7699

- Arts and Crafts Sale  
December 18, 8:30am-11:30pm

### Raymond Avenue Gallery

761 Raymond Ave., 644-9200

- "Transition"  
Contemporary basketry by Tressa  
Sularz  
Through December 17

### St. Paul Student Center

University of Minnesota

- "Three Views"  
Sculpture, photography and oil  
paintings by Kristie Bretzke,  
Gail Shore and  
Lisa Marie Barber  
Through December 16  
Paul Whitney Larson Art Gallery

### Undercroft Gallery

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church  
2136 Carter Ave., 645-3058

- "Seasons of the Heart"  
Watercolors by Peg Houck  
Through January 8

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# DECEMBER CALENDAR

## 1 Wednesday

- Women's Connection, a women's networking organization (651-603-0954), Hubert Humphrey Job Corps Center, 1480 Snelling, Building #1, 8 a.m. Every Wednesday.
- Leisure Center for Seniors (651-603-8946), St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Lunch reservations by Monday. Every Wednesday.

## 2 Thursday

- Tot Time (for 5-year-olds and younger), South St. Anthony Rec Center (651-298-5765), 10 a.m.-noon. Every Thursday.
- Toastmasters (651-649-5162), U.S. Forest Service, 1992 Folwell Ave., St. Paul Campus, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Every Thursday.
- Chair Exercise Classes - Seal High Rise, 825 Seal Street every Tuesday and Thursday at 1:30 p.m. These classes are free to all area seniors, but pre-registration is necessary. Chair exercise classes are appropriate for all fitness and ability levels, and offer cardiovascular workout. All major muscle groups are exercised. Call 651-642-9052 to pre-register.
- St. Anthony Park Community Council Land Use Committee, South St. Anthony Rec Center, 890 Cromwell, 6 p.m.

## 3 Friday

- Senior Citizen Fun Group (gym, bowling and darts), South St. Anthony Rec Center, 890 Cromwell, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Every Friday. (First Friday, blood pressure clinic by the St. Anthony Park Block Nurse Program, 9-10 a.m.).
- Falcon Heights recycling.

## 4 Saturday

- Hearplay demonstration class (612-729-6504), 10:30 a.m., SAP United Methodist Church.

## 6 Monday

- AA, St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church (651-644-0809), 8 p.m. Every Monday.
- Boy Scouts, St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ, 7 p.m. Every Monday.
- Como Park & Lauderdale recycling.

- Book discussion, "Under the Banner of Heaven," 6:30 p.m., Micawber's Bookstore.

## 7 Tuesday

- Tot Time (for 5-year-olds and younger), Langford Park Rec Center (651-298-5765), 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Every Tuesday.
- Toastmasters (651-645-6675), training in effective speaking, Hewlett Packard, Broadway & 280, 7:35-8:35 a.m. Every Tuesday.

- Free blood pressure clinic and health resources by the St. Anthony Park Block Nurse Program, Seal High Rise (825 Seal St.), 1-3 p.m. Every Tuesday.

- Chair Exercise Classes - Seal High Rise, 825 Seal Street every Tuesday and Thursday at 1:30 p.m. Call 651-642-9052 to pre-register.

- Hearplay demonstration class (612-729-6504), 6:30 p.m., SAP United Methodist Church.

## 8 Wednesday

- Falcon Heights City Council, City Hall, 2077 Larpenteur Ave., 7 p.m.
- Leisure Center for Seniors (651-603-8946), St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Lunch reservations by Monday. Free blood pressure clinic by the St. Anthony Park Block Nurse Program.
- St. Anthony Park recycling.

## 9 Thursday

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

## 10 Friday

- Holiday celebration, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Perfect Little Spa and Salon.

## 11 Saturday

- Holiday celebration, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Perfect Little Spa and Salon.

## 13 Monday

- Park Press Inc., Park Bugle Board Meeting, St. Anthony Park Bank Community Room, 7 a.m.

## 14 Tuesday

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

## 15 Wednesday

- Langford Booster Club, Langford Park, 7 p.m.

## 17 Friday

- Falcon Heights recycling.

## 20 Monday

- Como Park & Lauderdale recycling.

## 21 Tuesday

- District 10 board meeting, call 651-644-3889 for details.

## 22 Wednesday

- Falcon Heights City Council, City Hall, 2077 Larpenteur Ave., 7 p.m.
- St. Anthony Park Community Council Environment Committee, So. St. Anthony Rec Center, 890 Cromwell, 7 p.m.

- Leisure Center for Seniors (651-603-8946), St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Lunch reservations by Monday. Free blood pressure clinic by the St. Anthony Park Block Nurse Program.
- St. Anthony Park recycling.

## 27 Monday

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

## 28 Tuesday

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

## 30 Thursday

- Entry forms due for "Tasteful Art," 645-3058.

Items for the January Community Calendar must be submitted to the Bugle office by 6 p.m., Friday, December 17th.

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## A Foundation of Neighbors

*Wishing You Peace and Passion*

**By Jon Schumacher**  
*Executive Director  
St. Anthony Park Community  
Foundation*

December is a crazy time of year. From Thanksgiving through the New Year, business and social commitments seem to multiply exponentially. Proof of the existence of black holes is irrefutable as we take our deep breath in January and try to account for the blur of time that has become a tradition of the winter holidays.

We're busy with traditions at the Foundation as well. By now most of you should have received your letter asking to give generously to help us support our local non-profit community. Thanks to all who have already sent in your contributions or are planning to - it does make an important difference to many of our neighbors and friends.

This annual outpouring of charity, steeped in religious significance for many, has become a time to revel in the joy of our shared humanity... a time to give thanks for our blessings and for the opportunity to use them for a greater good.

What a lovely, critical, and timely relief from the acrimony of the past year; men and women of good will on all

sides of the political spectrum, who have spent untold energy in support of deeply held convictions, momentarily putting aside their differences to celebrate those ideals which bind us together as a community.



**Jon Schumacher**

Above all, it's the commitment to engage not detach, to respect not disparage, to empathize not judge, to be passionate about justice that benefits the most vulnerable among us...these are the values that will bring us closer together as a nation and as a world. These are the values that will give peace a chance.

On behalf of the board of the St. Anthony Park Community Foundation, I wish you a peaceful and passionate holiday season filled with hope for the future.



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Dec 19 10:30 am  
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Dec 24 4:00 pm  
Christmas Eve Day Afternoon  
Communion Service

Dec 24 10:00 pm  
Carols and Festival  
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Dec 25 10:30 am  
Christmas Day Communion  
Service

**Everyone is welcome.**

Absolute faith is not a requirement in our church. An open heart is. Come join us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. And you may just find that faith is the greatest Christmas present of all.

## Aging Gracefully by Mary Jo Tarasar

I have never met anyone who couldn't teach me something. And I have found teachers in some unexpected places.

Several years ago, after my first marriage ended, I was living in a rental home in the inner city.

Then, as now, I had an office in a church, and in this church there was an emergency shelter. It consisted of mats on the gymnasium floor, which were distributed to homeless men each night at 7 p.m. and collected 12 hours later.

At that time, when it snowed the city would call the shelters for day laborers to clear the sidewalks quickly in the downtown areas.

The younger, stronger shelter "guests" would stream downtown, looking forward to ready cash, as the older guys looked a little forlorn. One of them, a dumpy, 60ish guy named Bob, offered to shovel my walk when it snowed for \$5.

As a single parent with both back and budget problems, I agreed happily to this arrangement.

That year there was heavy snowfall just prior to Halloween. I woke up to find that the long driveway was covered with a foot of snow, and a four-foot drift blocked the garage door. I was trapped until it was cleared.

Bob showed up about 7:15 a.m., picked up my shovel and started to work. Slowly and steadily he cleared the drive, and I felt myself straining to be cheerful and congenial as inside my brain kept chanting, "Hurry up, I've

got to get to work!"

As the day wore on, I realized I wasn't going to make it to work. I made an effort to be kind to Bob, although his slow pace was driving me crazy as the afternoon wore on.

It was nearly 7 p.m. when Bob got done. He'd taken several breaks for food and coffee, but still he'd worked at least eight hours. I began to panic.

"I can't just pay him 5 dollars," I thought. "That's like 50 cents an hour. I can't even give him 10 dollars—that's still only about a dollar an hour. I have to give him a twenty."

I shoved the money into his hand as he hurried away to the shelter, afraid of losing his place on the floor if he showed up late.

The next morning I dropped my daughter off at daycare and went to work early to try and make up for my day off. I skipped lunch and managed to get almost caught up.

I got home about 6 p.m., deposited my daughter in her playpen and collapsed on my living room couch. Then there was a knock at the door.

I looked through the peephole and saw Bob standing on my front step.

"Great," I thought, "just what I need. He probably wants to yak until the shelter opens just so he can get warm, and I'm so tired!"

I set a dutiful smile on my face and opened the door.

"Hi, Bob," I said. "What can I do for you?"

"You gave me too much money," he replied. He held out two crumpled bills—a five and a ten. "You have a child to feed and I wouldn't feel right if I took more than I said I would."

He pushed the bills into my hand, hoisted the Hefty bag with his worldly goods in it onto his shoulder and headed for the shelter to sleep on the floor.

I watched him shuffle away until he disappeared in the darkness.

He had returned the money so much more cheerfully than I had given it. And he owned nothing but a garbage bag—and a phenomenal set of values.

People who stay in shelters are by definition transient, and I lost track of Bob shortly after that night. But he crosses my mind every so often, especially during the holiday season.

When I think of him, I look up into the cold winter night and thank him, wherever he is, for the lesson he taught me about what really matters in life, and about the spirit of giving.

Health update: I am making good progress in my battle with cancer. Thanks to all of you for your calls, letters and prayers!

*The St. Anthony Park Block Nurse Program offers services to support caregivers. We hope that Aging Gracefully is helpful to older adults and those who care about and care for them. We welcome ideas and feedback for this column at 642-9052 or sapbn@bitstream.net.*

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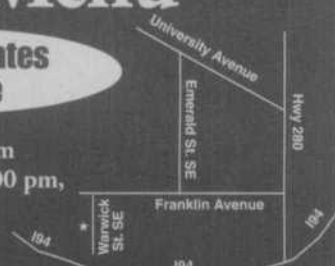
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### Classified deadline:

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Next issue: December 29th

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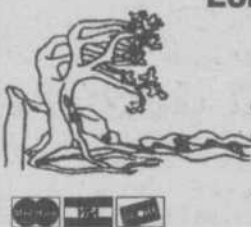
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**Ecumenical enchantress from page 3**

began working solo.

"I needed the freedom and flexibility. My older son's cancer also derailed my younger son, who's 15, so I had to work with him too to get him back on track." (Her son is in his second year of chemo, and his prognosis is good.)

Brown went building hunting and found that the space at Raymond was available. "The landlord is just great. He let me adjust the space the way I wanted. I needed the place to be like home—it's like having your home in your work. This is who I am, and people like coming in here."

Soon the icons, artifacts and paraphernalia had a home too. When asked about the preponderance of Catholic images, Brown says, "It's just that Catholics have a lot of icons, and I picked up all of this stuff in junk shops. I think the Catholic stuff is beautiful, that's all. I like the feminine imagery—Mother Mary."

Although Brown was more than happy working alone, she did not hesitate to say yes when her friend, Michael Padden, who worked with her for many years at the same Cathedral Hill salon, asked if he could join her about six months ago.

Padden, also a St. Paul native and popular stylist, says, "I offered to help her with the place. I mean, she had a lot going on with her son and everything." Padden, who brought his carpentry, painting and general jack-of-all-trades skills to the mix, helped renovate the space.

"The next thing I'd like to do is add a tin ceiling, if we can," Padden says. About being surrounded by the images, he says, "I think it's really cool what she does and how much she loves the images. It reminds me a lot of Saint Agnes," referring to the East Side school and church he attended as a child.

The only bad news about having these top-notch stylists in the neighborhood is that right

now neither can take on new clients. "Tell people to stop by anyway," said Brown. "I have beautiful earrings made by Sharri Bacco. We also sell ClayPac® products, which are made by Rocco Altobelli. And don't forget the statues."

Brown said that both she and Padden love working in St. Anthony Park. "This neighborhood is welcoming. And

I leave the praying hands outside all the time and nothing has happened to them or the statues. That's really something."

For Brown, having her own business and filling it with images that are dear to her is more than a dream come true.

"I remember the Bible verse about having abundant life and, yes, I think this is it."

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11:00 a.m. Korean Worship, Pastor Jiyong Park

11:00 a.m. Filipino-American Worship, Dr. Sanny Olojan, Pastor

Wednesday: 6:30 pm Kids' Club and Youth Group

Christmas Eve Service: 5:00 p.m.

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CPLContact ministry 651-644-1897

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Sunday Fall Worship Schedule:

• 8:00, 9:00, & 11:00 a.m. Worship

(nursery provided from 8:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.)

10:00 a.m. Adult Education & Sunday School

Holy Communion on 1st & 3rd Sundays

Rides available for 11:00 a.m. worship;

Call the church office before noon on Friday for ride.

Saturday, December 4th: Advent Dinner - All Are Welcome!

Seatings at 4:30 & 5:30 p.m. (\$7 adults, \$4 children, \$15 family maximum)

Saturday, December 11th: Sunday School Christmas Program - 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 12th: Sunday School Christmas Program & Service - 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, December 19th: Christmas Hymn Sing with  
the CPLC Orchestra - 11:00 a.m.

Christmas Eve Services: 3:00, 4:30 & 10:30 p.m. (10:30 p.m. with Communion)

Christmas Day Service: 10:00 a.m. with Communion

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Education Hour: 10:30 a.m.

Chinese Worship: Sundays at 2:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 12: Choir Service, 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, December 19: Children's Service, 9:00 a.m.

Christmas Eve Worship (Candlelight Service) December 24, 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Day Worship, December 25, 9:00 a.m.

**❖ PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA**

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Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.

Education: 9:00 a.m.

Pastor: David Greenlund

All are welcome - Come as you are

Advent Haugen Vespers:

December 1, 8, 15 & 22 at 7:00 p.m.

December 26 at 8:15 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

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Saturday Mass: 5:00 p.m. at the church

Sunday Masses: 8:15 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. at the church

(nursery provided during the 10:00 am Mass)

Christmas Services:

December 24th: 5:00 p.m.

December 25th: 5:00 p.m.

December 26th: 8:15 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

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Christmas Eve Service, December 24th, 4:00 p.m.

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Nursery and Sunday School provided: 10:15 a.m.

Sunday, December 5, 10:00 a.m. - Children's Christmas Pageant

Sunday, December 12, 10:00 a.m. - Communion

Sunday, December 19, 10:00 a.m. - Senior Choir Concert

Saturday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

4:00 p.m. - Family Service

11:00 p.m. - Candlelight Service

Sunday, December 26, 10:00 a.m. - Hymn Praise Service

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Pastor Donna Martinson

See [www.sapumc.org](http://www.sapumc.org) for more about our church.

Sundays:

10:00 am Worship Celebration

10:20 Sunday School (age 3 to 6th grade)

11:00 a.m. Fellowship

Victory Temple in Jesus Christ at 11:45 a.m.

December 24th at 5:00 pm - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Wednesdays: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Leisure Center

(senior fellowship, activities, noon meal)

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Pastors Glenn Berg-Moberg and Amy Thoren, Email: [info@saplc.org](mailto:info@saplc.org)

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Advent Festival: Wed., Dec. 1st, 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. Public Welcome!

Christmas Eve Services: Dec. 24th, 4:00 p.m. & 11:00 p.m.

Christmas Day Service: Dec. 25th, 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Services: 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.

Adult Education: 9:45 a.m.

Minnesota Faith Chinese Lutheran Church 1:30 p.m.

信義教會 星期日下午

**❖ ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

2136 Carter at Chelmsford. 651-645-3058

Website: [www.stmatthewsmn.org](http://www.stmatthewsmn.org)

Sunday Services:

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rt. I, 10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rt. II

9:15 a.m. Christian Education for All Ages

4:00 p.m. Prospect Hill Friends Meeting

Advent and Christmas at St. Matthew's:

December 12 - 10:30 a.m. A Service of Nine Lessons and Carols

December 19 - 10:30 a.m. Communion and a Children's Christmas Pageant

December 24 - 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Day Afternoon Communion Service

December 24 - 10:00 p.m. Carols and Festival Communion Service

December 25 - 10:30 a.m. Christmas Day Communion Service

**❖ ST. MICHAEL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA**

1660 West County Road B, Roseville. 651-631-1510

one block west of Snelling

Sunday Worship: 8:45 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Education hour for ages 2 through adult: 10:00 a.m. to 10:50 a.m.

Nursery provided. Handicap accessible.

Pastors: Roland Hayes and Sarah Breckenridge Schwietz

For more information, check [www.stmichaelselca.com](http://www.stmichaelselca.com)

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