

# Park Bugle

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

Volume 31, Number 7, January, 2005

## Chinese Dance Theater thrives in new location

by Natalie Zett

Negotiating tight spaces is never optimal for a dance company, particularly one that practices the Lion Dance or Silk Dance, where accouterments such as elaborate costuming or swirling silk scarves are just as important as the dancers' moves.

Now, after a long search, the largest Chinese dance organization in the Midwest has finally found a home—in St. Anthony Park.

Lili Pan, managing director of the Chinese Dance Theater (CDT), is jazzed about their organization's new locale at 1410 Energy Park Drive.

"We looked for a long time for the right place," he said. "We loved the location, and we were especially glad to find a space with high ceilings to practice the dances."

The CDT is a part of the Chinese American Association of Minnesota (CAAM), the oldest and largest Chinese American community organization in Minnesota. Established in 1992,

the theater performs for about 17,000 audience members annually and had no permanent quarters until locating to a building near Bandana Square several months ago.

Amidst the theater's move, its October 30 grand opening and rehearsing for the Chinese New Year's celebration, a deep sense of gratitude prevails within the organization.

"We are really lucky," said Pan. "We have an award-winning teacher (Pei Shen) and are looking forward to adding new programs, to doing things we couldn't dream of until we had a permanent home."

Besides performing, CDT also runs a dance school for children and adults and does outreach programs to schools and other arts organizations. They even did a program at the Minnesota Department of Health. "We were the diversity," laughed Pan.

There's more to the CDT than dance since it's also a



Julie Truong, teacher at the Chinese Dance Theater, supervises a dance class. The CDC recently moved into new quarters at 1410 Energy Park Drive, Suite 11, near Bandana Square.

community center. "We wish to preserve the culture among Chinese-Americans, but we also do a lot of community outreach," said Pan. "We wish to share our culture with everyone."

Pan moved to Minnesota nine years ago from China and hit the ground running, obtaining an undergraduate degree in educational psychology at the U of M and an MBA from the University of St. Thomas.

During that time, he also worked for Model Cities of St. Paul and for St. Stephen's Catholic Church in Minneapolis, giving him excellent experience in the nonprofit sector. When the CAAM board approached him to take the managing director position at the Chinese Dance Theater, he said yes. He added that it's exhilarating to be a part of such a dynamic organization.

"We are unusual in that we are Chinese from both mainland China and Taiwan, so in that respect we are inclusive. Like all community organizations, we rely

heavily on volunteer efforts, and the Twin Cities Chinese community is very extensive. People come from all around to help. For example, the elaborate costumes for the dance theater are handmade by volunteers."

CAAM board member KaiMay Yuen Terry is also no stranger to community involvement. She's held positions on the boards of numerous community organizations, including chairing the CDT.

Originally from Hong Kong, KaiMay holds undergraduate and graduate degrees from Oberlin College, the University of Chicago and Johns Hopkins University, and owns a health information company, VideoMed, that produces and distributes health information to the health care industry.

It was a particular event, though, that intensified KaiMay's already deep commitment to the Chinese American community.

## Catholic Charities housing complex proposed for St. Anthony Park

by Susan Conner

The city of St. Paul and Catholic Charities are collaborating to build a 120-bed housing complex for chronic alcoholic and homeless men that would be located on an industrial site at 2286 Capp Road in south St. Anthony Park.

Since 1989 the neighborhood has been home to a residence for 60 chronic inebriant men at 2300 Wycliffe Street, about two blocks from the new site.

The St. Anthony Residence, managed by Catholic Charities, would be replaced by the new facility, which would include 60 additional single-occupancy units as permanent long-term housing for homeless men.

According to Tracy Berglund, director of housing for Catholic Charities, 10 of these would be "safe haven" units, designated for men who are currently homeless but are reluctant to come inside.

Berglund said these men seem to have a "psychological barrier" to housing, and it is hoped that having a place available for them to use in inclement weather, without an obligation to stay, will help them make a transition to living indoors.

The facility would include 24-hour staffing, a resource person, a psychiatrist one day per week and case management services for residents. Berglund called it "supportive housing."

## District plan gets local input

by Dave Healy

A December 15 community meeting gave St. Anthony Park residents a chance to comment on preliminary goals for a district plan that the Community Council will eventually submit to the St. Paul City Council. About 35 people attended the meeting, which was held at St. Anthony Park Elementary School.

The last district plan was written in 1983, and Community Council Member Traci Warnberg-Lemm told the group that the new plan should be considered a guide for the neighborhood over the next 20 years. The City Council will take all existing district plans off the books at the end of 2005, so the District 12 Council wants to have a new plan completed by that time.

To provide a context for the Community Council's current planning efforts, council member Sperm Eagles summarized some successful goals from the 1983 plan. That plan emphasized the importance of keeping the St. Anthony Park Library and Murray Junior High School, extending Kasota Avenue

east to Snelling, adding sound barriers along Highway 280, and shifting truck routes in north and south St. Anthony Park. All of those goals were realized.

Next, people broke into small groups and discussed the question, "What do you value about St. Anthony Park?" Answers were shared with the large group.

Council member Rose Gregoire introduced eight categories that the council generated to guide planning efforts: education and human services, safety and security, the environment, land use, livability, business and jobs, housing and transportation.

The council had formulated preliminary goals in each of these areas, and attendees were asked to supplement and fill in details for those goals. They were also asked to write answers to the question, "What would you like to see in St. Anthony Park for the next 10-20 years?"

The council will synthesize results from the December 15 meeting. Additional community forums are planned for April and June.

## Langford recreation center plans to be aired

by Nina Axelson

After five years of hard work, citizen participation and a shared interest in a positive recreation experience, St. Anthony Park residents have an opportunity to view preliminary options for upgraded outdoor facilities at Langford Recreation Center.

The current options are an outgrowth of recommendations by SAPLING (St. Anthony Park Langford Initiative for the Neighborhood Good), a group that in 1999 began surveying the community and evaluating recreation needs for Langford Park. The St. Anthony Park Community Council (SAPCC)

has also been involved since approving initial task force recommendations and Capital Improvement Budget (CIB) funding in 2001.

Kathleen Anglo, landscape architect with St. Paul Parks and Recreation, is overseeing the project, with help from Tony Ruiz, director of Langford Recreation Center; Nina Axelson, SAPCC community organizer; and a steering committee made up of booster club members and neighborhood residents.

Plans call for upgrading the playground area and tennis and basketball courts. These options

will be presented at a 7 p.m. community forum on January 26 at Langford Recreation Center.

The forum is open to the public and will be a chance for community members to see and discuss a variety of plans for upgrading the outdoor facilities.

CIB funding requires the project to be completed by the end of 2005, so the steering committee hopes the work can be completed by next fall.

Anyone with questions about this project can contact Nina Axelson at 649-5992 or Nina@sapcc.org.

Dance theater to page 14

New housing project to page 8

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## CITY FILES

### Como Park

On January 18 at 6 p.m. the District Council will hold a neighborhood meeting to discuss vehicular noise problems. Representatives from the St. Paul Police Department will participate in the conversation. The public is encouraged to attend. The meeting will be at North Dale Recreation Center, 1414 N. St. Albans. A regular board meeting follows at 7 p.m.

### Falcon Heights

Dutch Elm disease is on the rise in Falcon Heights. In 2004,

99 cases were identified, compared to 29 in 2003. Of the 99 new cases, 63 were on private property. The city has been working with residents to resolve problems related to diseased trees.

Citizens may pick up a copy of the Solid Waste Commission report at City Hall.

### Lauderdale

The city of Lauderdale is preparing for the annual family winter celebration, Snow Commotion, on February 5 from 3-6 p.m. Activities will take place

on two sites this year. City Hall will host the chili feed; other events will be held at the City Park. These include horse-drawn carriage rides and a medallion hunt.

### St. Anthony Park

The Community Council passed a resolution supporting an off-sale liquor license for the Little Wine Shoppe, Inc. at 2236 Carter Avenue.

The council passed a resolution supporting the rezoning of the Metro Loft housing development area to TN3 and requesting that the Planning Commission initiate a zoning study to determine what other uses along University Avenue should be zoned "traditional neighborhood," taking into account the traffic effects of such zoning changes.

The council passed a resolution requesting signage for marked bike lanes on Pierce Butler.

—Susan Conner

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## Anderson and Hausman plan for 2005 session

*In anticipation of the 2005 Minnesota legislative session, the Bugle talked with Sen. Ellen Anderson and Rep. Alice Hausman about their legislative priorities. The DFL legislators represent most of the Bugle's distribution area: St. Anthony Park, Como Park and Falcon Heights.*

### Anderson carries torch for renewable energy

by Dave Healy

As she anticipates the 2005 Minnesota legislative session, Sen. Ellen Anderson wants to take care of old business quickly so that she and her colleagues can move on to the tasks at hand: hammering out a budget and setting legislative priorities that will shape the state's future.

Old business is last year's bonding bill, which the Legislature did not pass. "We better pass a bonding bill, and sooner rather than later," she said. "Interest rates continue to go up, so the construction projects we were talking about last year are going to be more expensive now. We can't afford to delay any longer."

Anderson, a DFLer who represents Senate District 66 and is in her fourth term, outlined four personal priorities for the upcoming session: raising the minimum wage, protecting funding for education and health and human services, reforming telecommunication legislation and strengthening policies on renewable energy.

Anderson chairs the Jobs, Energy and Community Development Committee, and last year she authored a bill raising the minimum wage by 75¢ an hour in 2004 and another 75¢ an hour in 2005. The bill passed in committee and in the full Senate, but the Republican-controlled House refused to hold a hearing on it. She plans to introduce the bill again on the first day of the 2005 session.

Anderson is also preparing for a battle over anticipated cuts to housing, health and human services. "The governor's budget figures don't factor in the effect of inflation, so his estimates about the deficit we're facing are not reasonable. We simply have to increase tax revenues to avoid devastating cuts in a variety of important areas."

Though she knows raising taxes will be a tough sell, Anderson expressed confidence that Minnesotans would be supportive of legislative efforts to protect government services that most people value. "I think most people in Minnesota want our (legislators') allegiance to be to the citizens of this state—not to the Minnesota Taxpayers League or other business interests," she said.

Another area Anderson would like to see the Legislature address is the telecommunications industry, though she sees this as a project that may have to wait until after the current session. One of the main issues, she pointed out, is federal vs. state control.

"For example," she said, "one thing that's really growing is using the Internet for phone conversations. Currently, states have no jurisdiction regarding voice-over-Internet protocol." She noted that currently there are no requirements that VoIP provide 911 service. "There's a real regulatory vacuum in this area," she said.

Anderson pointed to Minnesota's passing of a law protecting cell phone users as an example of how legislation must keep pace with technological development. "Before the new law, it was too easy for wireless service providers to deceptively lock people into long-term contracts," she said. "Now there is some protection for consumers."

The rapid pace of technological development, Anderson said, means that we must keep redefining what people are entitled to. "At one time it was electricity, then telephone service. We

### Hausman pushes for more comprehensive transportation policies

by Dave Healy

Turnabout isn't fair play, according to Rep. Alice Hausman.

The 8th-term DFL legislator, representing Minnesota House District 66B, fears that the upcoming legislative session may be a reversal of last year's. In 2004, the Minnesota House got a bonding bill to a conference committee and to the floor, while the Senate failed to do so. The resulting stalemate meant no bonding bill was passed last year, though that was the Legislature's main business during the so-called "short session."

This year, Hausman predicts the Senate will pass a bonding bill, but she's afraid the House, where the Republican majority will be slimmer in the wake of last fall's elections, may be less successful.

"Will we pass a bonding bill this time around? I think it's an open question," she said. "House Republicans are feeling defensive because they lost seats in the election. I'm afraid they may be less bipartisan. I hope I'm wrong—this is too important to fight over."

As the lead Democrat on last year's Capital Investment Committee, Hausman was right in the thick of things. She also serves on three other committees: taxes, transportation finance and transportation policy.

In addition to completing last year's unfinished business, the 2005 legislative session will also have to address the budget, where a \$1.4 billion deficit is predicted. What will get cut?

"Given the signals Gov. Pawlenty has given so far, I fear that human services will be a target," Hausman said. "That could be devastating for some people—for example, parents of children with special needs."

She noted that the Legislature has cut taxes but raised a variety of fees, which she called "a back-handed way of raising revenues." She said that raising fees is de facto taxation—and a particularly regressive form to boot. "Instead of all of us sharing the responsibility for providing essential services, fees single people out, and in the human services area those people are often the least able to absorb an increase."

Hausman is also gearing up for battles over transportation funding, and here she is more optimistic. "We may actually succeed in raising the gas tax," she said, noting that this would require overriding the governor's promised veto.

She also predicted that the formula for allotting state gas tax revenue to counties would come up for review. Historically, metro-area counties have complained that the current formula favors out-state counties.

"But what we really need," Hausman said, "is a dedicated funding stream for transit and a much more comprehensive vision of transportation planning." She compared Minnesota, where discussions of mass transit have proceeded on a "corridor by corridor" basis, with other states and cities that have adopted comprehensive transit plans.

"The thing about transit is that everything is connected—or it should be," she said. "So far, most of what's been developed or proposed here is on the west side of the river. We need to be looking at the big picture."

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## EDITORIAL

## House dreams

If you're living the American Dream, you need to have a dream house. What kind of house do you dream about?

Several assumptions attend the notion of a dream house. For starters, and perhaps so obvious it doesn't need stating, is the assumption that your dream house is not the one you're living in. After all, you don't dream about what you already have, right?

So if you rent, you dream about owning. If you own, you dream about something . . . what? Bigger? Newer? Better located? More well furnished? More sensibly laid out? All of the above?

Chances are your dream house doesn't exist yet. In other words, you're dreaming about a hypothetical structure, not an extant one. Of course, you could be dreaming about your neighbors' house, imagining you and yours living there instead of them. But a proper dream house, must of us believe, has yet to be built. It will be utterly new.

The dream house as new house serves several functions. For one thing, it gets you off the hook of covetousness. The Good Book is pretty unambiguous: "Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house."

"Oh, it's not my neighbor's house I want," you say. "Mine won't be like anyone else's."

The dream house as new house also fuels the economy. Sure, you could move into someone else's place. Maybe you'd even hire some remodelers. But what's that going to do to that all-important economic indicator—housing starts? To keep the economy humming along, we can't all just fix up something that's already there. We need new things—especially houses.

Okay, what if you're dreaming of a new house but you really like your present neighborhood? Well, you could just knock down your current place and put up a new one. Indeed, there are areas where "tear-downs" are becoming increasingly common.

But there's another way. There's another kind of dreaming that doesn't involve imagining something new. It's the kind of dreaming that enables one to look at a building—a vacant firehouse, say—and begin envisioning it being used for an entirely new purpose. "Yeah, I bet we could live in that place—and use it as a studio. Let's see, if we took out that wall and moved the stairway over there and . . .

This impulse—to fix, modify, adapt, transform—is just as compatible with the American Dream as imagining new things. It calls for Yankee ingenuity, for creativity, for vision. It's what you do when you run out of frontier.

So it turns out that we need not only builders, but remodelers; not only writers, but editors; not only composers, but arrangers. We need people who find it challenging to work with the given, to take what's there and turn into something better, different, new. We need to beat our swords into ploughshares and pruning hooks and putters.

The America Dream accommodates all kinds of dreamers.

## Park Bugle

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## Think twice about MPR

Last month, MPR purchased classical radio 89.3 FM. That station, owned by St. Olaf College, was the only Twin Cities station providing classical music in the morning, and it provided a nice alternative to 99.5 FM. Recently, MPR announced that the 89.3 station would cease to

exist as of January 1, 2005.

Something about this reminds me of General Motors and streetcar lines in the 1940s. Buying your competition and closing it down, if not illegal, is certainly immoral.

Nonprofits are supposed to serve the public, not eliminate competition to fatten the bank

accounts of their board of directors (and those given corporate perks like stock in its Music Source company).

Please think twice before supporting MPR and its corporate greed in the future.

Kelly Laumeyer  
Falcon Heights

## Fund Drive Update

Owing to delivery problems, some Bugle readers did not receive our annual fund drive letter. If you didn't receive a letter but would like to make a contribution to the Bugle, please use the form below.

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On December 11, the Tibetan American Foundation of Minnesota hosted an open house at the Tibetan Community Cultural Center, located in St. Anthony Park at the corner of Raymond Avenue and Energy Park Drive. The event include dances by students, pictured here, from the organization's Tibetan Cultural School.



Photo by Marcie O'Connor

A Great Gray Owl perches in a tree on Raymond Avenue between Buford and Hendon. This owl had been hunting in the area north of College Park for several weeks. The largest of North American owls, the Great Gray's normal range is from Alaska to Canada. Some are seen in northern Minnesota, but it is unusual for them to appear in the Twin Cities. However, a low rodent population in Canada this year has pushed the Great Gray Owl farther south than usual. Unlike many species of owls, the Great Gray hunts during the day, so it is comparatively easy to spot. This one has drawn the attention of many residents, who have been exchanging information via phone and email about the most recent sightings.

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## Now that we're there . . . What should be done?

Ideas & strategies to help set US policy on Iraq  
 on a path to real peace

with **Phil Steger**

Executive Director of Friends for a Non-Violent World

Presented by St. Anthony Park Neighbors for Peace

**Sunday, January 9**

2129 Commonwealth Avenue

(St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ)

Refreshments, 6:30 p.m. (Optional: bring a dessert to share)

Presentation & questions, 7 p.m.

## St. Anthony Park

As we all prepare for 2005, I wish all of you a **Happy New Year!** Thank you for being part of great year for me in 2004.

This coming year, I hope all of you will join me in supporting the **St. Anthony Park Community Foundation**. It's a great organization consisting of neighbors dedicated to the long term preservation and betterment of our unique and wonderful neighborhood.

To support the Foundation's ongoing mission, I'll **donate a portion** of the fee I earn for each home I sell in the Park in 2005. My goal is to donate at least **\$5,000** to the Foundation, and I hope you will join me in this effort.

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### Ellen Anderson from page 3

now believe that anyone in Minnesota should have access to those things. Perhaps one day we'll feel the same way about high-speed Internet access."

If there is one issue near and dear to Anderson's heart, it's renewable energy. "Oh boy, if you get me going on that, I might never shut up," she said.

Anderson pointed out that currently Minnesota fulfills only about 2 percent of its energy needs through renewables, relying mostly on coal (75 percent) and nuclear energy (20 percent). She believes we could be doing much more.

"We have the potential to produce all of our electrical energy needs with wind," she said, adding that this is an economic development issue as well as an environmental one. "Right now, we don't produce

our own energy, but with wind power we could."

Doing so, she said, will mean resisting the efforts of utilities. "Xcel is pushing for more coal plants," she said, "as many as four throughout the state." But our dependence on coal, Anderson emphasized, has serious health and environmental consequences, contributing both to rising mercury levels in our lakes and to climate change. "At the very least, we need to clean up our old coal plants before we build new ones."

Anderson noted that interest in renewable energy often comes from metro-area legislators but that the resources are in rural Minnesota. "We have to get rural legislators to listen to their own constituents," she said, describing a meeting she attended last year with a group of farmers. "I asked

how many used or wanted to build some kind of wind turbine, and they all raised their hands. They see this as a cash crop."

Anderson said that environmentalism depends on the efforts of individuals, but that legislation can do much to enable those efforts. "State policies can make a huge difference," she emphasized, pointing to Pennsylvania as one example of a state that has been successful in attracting investment by private companies that manufacture wind turbines.

"Support for alternative energy is growing in Minnesota, but slowly," she said. "Change must come from the grassroots. We need to have a vision for where we want to be in the future. The decisions we make now will shape things for the next 50 years."

### Alice Hausman from page 3

For Hausman, an important part of that picture is the Central Corridor light rail line that's been proposed for University Avenue and that would cut through the heart of her district. She noted that one obstacle to the Central Corridor becoming a reality is fears on the part of small business owners who would be inconvenienced by the disruption of light rail construction.

"We have an obligation to protect those businesses," she said, "and we can—through sensible construction scheduling. But some opponents are whipping up unreasonable fear that a Central Corridor would be

the death of small business. I hope we don't get caught up in the fear of change and lose the opportunity to become part of the larger transit network."

Hausman argues that not only are the various parts of Minnesota's transportation system interrelated but that transportation itself is connected to a variety of other issues: jobs, housing, health care. "If an efficient, affordable mass transit system enables a family to get by with one car instead of two, or no car instead of one, that means they have more money to pay for housing and other things they need."

For Hausman, the fallout of partisan politics means being subjected to what she considers an unfair caricature. "The greatest frustration I have is hearing that we're liberals who just want to give people handouts. That's not true at all. We want to promote healthy individuals and families who are economically empowered to be full participants in all that our society has to offer."

Hausman pointed to Elmer L. Andersen, recently deceased former governor and philanthropist, as exemplifying the true Minnesota spirit.

"In an article that appeared after his death," she said, "Anderson said something that I think everyone should memorize: 'We've gone way overboard in thinking taxes are evil or that government is flagrantly wasteful. Taxes are the way people join hands to get good things done. That's the tradition of Minnesota.'"

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Season's Greetings!





## No bones about it

by Kristi Curry Rogers

Greetings dinosaur enthusiasts!

The last several weeks I've been seriously contemplating the evolutionary history of living birds, especially their connections to the meat-eating dinosaurs called theropods.

It all started when I was watching my husband and daughter dive into our Thanksgiving turkey a few weeks ago. As they pulled the wishbone to make a wish, I paid close attention to that bizarre little bone.

Have you ever wondered what the wishbone is? And did you know that wishbones (which are technically fused collarbones known as furculae) are one of the main anatomical pieces of evidence that leads paleontologists to infer that birds, including that Thanksgiving turkey and the Great Grey Owl that has been swooping around St. Anthony Park, are actually just specialized meat-eating dinosaurs with feathers on?

Yes, it's true. When I look at a bird, I never just think of it as a bird anymore. Instead, I think of it as a gorgeous dinosaur.

In fact, most dino scientists now agree that the evidence is overwhelming for that dinosaur-bird connection. And the connections go far beyond that anatomical specialty called the furcula.

The first bird is called Archaeopteryx. It's around 150 million years old, and was discovered in Germany in 1860. It's a bizarre mix of bird-like wings, a mouthful of sharp teeth and a long, dinosaur-like tail.

For many years, Archaeopteryx was one of the only specimens that shed any real light on where birds might have come from in the big family tree of life on earth. The origin of feathers and powered flight was one of the great mysteries of biology.

In the past decade, amazing new fossils, especially from China and Mongolia, have begun to answer the question, and we've determined that birds descended from ground-dwelling, meat-eating dinosaurs.

The evidence comes in the form of awesomely preserved skeletons, some of dinosaurs with "proto-feathers," weird, short, fur-like feathery body covering, and some of birds that still retain lots of the features of their dino precursors (like long tails and teeth).

Even more exciting are dinosaurs that have true feathers. The fact that some dinosaurs, who are certainly not flying, have elaborate, true feathers like those of modern birds, indicates that feathers were initially useful for something other than flight.

Perhaps it was display—showing off for mates, defending territory or intimidating rival males. Or perhaps it was warmth. A feather-like body covering would have captured body heat escaping from dinosaurs and helped keep them warmer.

New fossils are also beginning to paint a picture of bird-like behaviors in some dinosaurs, especially those that are closely related to birds. For example, a dinosaur called Oviraptor (the name means "egg stealer") was originally found in the 1920s lying atop nests of dinosaur eggs in Mongolia. Since it was a meat-eating dinosaur, paleontologists assumed that it was eating the eggs of a small plant eater called Protoceratops.

In the 1990s, crews from the American Museum of Natural History in New York uncovered several more similarly preserved specimens, including a couple of nests with embryos preserved in the eggs. It turned out that the "egg stealer" was actually a "good mother" and was fortunately preserved in a brooding posture, with arms tucked around its very own eggs. The Egg Thief was officially exonerated!

So, enjoy your holiday season and take a little extra time to marvel at the dinosaurs grazing at your bird feeder. Happy New Year.

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## New housing project from page 1

Each floor of the homeless residence would have a kitchen, but those men would have the option of eating in the residence for chronic inebriants, which serves meals.

Berglund said CC has been looking for a building site for this project for three years. She added that CC rents the St. Anthony Residence, and the organization has been dissatisfied with that property on several counts. She also noted that the Dorothy Day Center, a homeless shelter that CC runs in downtown St. Paul, has seen steadily increasing numbers.

"In 1999 a high-occupancy night at Dorothy Day was 80 people," Berglund said. "One night in November 2004—not even a cold night—there were 195 people being sheltered."

Berglund applauded what she sees as growing interest in addressing homelessness, noting that Gov. Pawlenty has announced a plan to end long-term homelessness in Minnesota and to build 4000 units for the homeless across the state.

Berglund said these initiatives may create funding sources for projects such as the Catholic Charities residence. Last year a state task force recommended that general obligation bonds be used to underwrite projects such as this. It was not passed, but Berglund said they are hopeful for this year.

When Berglund presented information about the project to the District 12 Land Use Committee on December 2, she was asked, "Why here?"

She responded, "We have a track record here (with the

St. Anthony Residence). A limited number of neighborhoods will accept us. This residence would be a couple blocks farther away from the residential neighborhoods. The location is in an industrial area, and the fact is that neighborhoods do not like such housing located in residential areas. Also, it is understood that there are at least 20 homeless men currently living in this area."

She added that permanent housing is cheaper to manage than shelters and emergency services.

In November of 2004, St. Paul's Housing and Redevelopment Authority approved a resolution to purchase the property, and the St. Paul City Council approved the action. The land has not yet been purchased, however. Much remains to be done before construction is assured, Berglund said.

According to Donna Drummond, a city planner, the site is currently zoned I-2, a classification that is not compatible with the CC plan. If the city were to expand the definition of I-2, Drummond said, community approval would not be needed. But if CC applied for a conditional use permit, community approval would be necessary.

Pollution of the site is another problem under study, Drummond said. Other determinations include an appraisal of the property, demolition costs and the actual purchase price. If the city purchases the property, they could either sell or give it to Catholic

Charities. At that point a public hearing would be required.

At the December 2 meeting, committee members raised questions about the possible effect of the proposed facility on residential quality as well as on future development. Committee Chair Bruce Weber noted that both the Community Council and University United are nearing completion of long-term plans for the area.

"How does this project fit in?" he asked. "Does the city respect these planning processes?"

At the December 2 meeting, concerns were also raised about safety. The lack of sidewalks in the area, some people noted, already put at risk residents who are walking in the area, especially at night.

Sandy Jacobs, who owns a neighboring industrial building that houses small businesses, said increasing the population of homeless or chronically inebriated men could increase anxiety among female employees.

Committee members speculated that if the Wyldiffe residence is vacated by Catholic Charities, another group could rent it for a similar purpose, since it currently has a conditional use permit.

Ward 4 City Council Member Jay Benanav said that if a new group takes possession within a year, it could continue with the same permit.

While the site being considered is 4.3 acres, CC intends to use only about a third of it for this project, said Berglund. She added that CC has no plans to move the Dorothy Day Center, currently located in downtown St. Paul, to the Capp Road site.

Joan Trulsen, of the office of Planning and Economic Development, said the city would probably split the lot and sell the other portion.

As the project proceeds, "Catholic Charities needs to show that it will have no negative impact on surrounding property values and redevelopment potential in the area," said Jane Prince, aide to Benanav.

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## Catholic Charities project draws criticism

*Some neighborhood groups, businesses feel left out of process*

by Dave Healy

A proposed housing complex in south St. Anthony Park for homeless and chronic alcoholic men has drawn reactions from neighboring businesses and a variety of community organizations. Catholic Charities wants to use property at 2286 Capp Road for a 120-bed facility that would replace their nearby St. Anthony Residence.

The project would be subsidized by the city of St. Paul. In addition to concerns about the new facility, several people have raised questions about how Catholic Charities and the city have gone about presenting the project.

Sandy Jacobs is co-owner of Update Co., a real estate developer and property management company whose office is at 2280 Wycliffe Street.

Update is a family business that was begun by Jacobs' parents, and they've owned and managed property in south St. Anthony Park for over 25 years. Currently Update owns or manages seven buildings in the area, one of which is at Endicott and Hersey Streets, across the street from the Catholic Charities site.

Jacobs said she first heard about the Catholic Charities plan in a Star Tribune article. "I was surprised that a project of this size hadn't received any public input before it was announced," she said.

Jacobs said she is concerned about the potential effect of the new facility on the surrounding business community. "There's a definite need for homeless

housing," she said, "but you want to take into account the impact on the neighborhood."

She mentioned several problems related to St. Anthony Residence, including intoxicated residents walking in the street and leaving empty bottles around. And she questioned how well the new development would fit with the overall direction she sees the area moving in.

"There's been a trend away from industrial use to more of a business park in this area," she said. "The Catholic Charities plan doesn't seem to fit with our vision for the neighborhood."

Since the initial announcement about the project, Jacobs has written to St. Paul City Council Member Jay Benanav; talked with city, District 12 Community Council and Midway Chamber of Commerce personnel; and attended several meetings about the issue. But she thinks those discussions should have taken place earlier.

"A lot of this has been after the fact," she said. "I would have appreciated some kind of meeting with Catholic Charities before their plan was publicized."

Jacobs added that the way this project has been handled flies in the face of neighborhood planning efforts. "You've got organizations like the District Council, the Midway Chamber, University United—all formulating plans for the area. Why make all those plans if no one pays attention until after the fact?"

University United is a coalition of community organizations and businesses that works to revitalize the University Avenue corridor through community-based planning and development.

Brian McMahon, University United executive director, said he first became aware of the Catholic Charities project by reading about it in the newspaper and was surprised that he hadn't heard anything about it previously.

When he made some inquiries, he was disturbed by the lack of community involvement and notification on the part of Catholic Charities and the city.

"We like to be involved in the early stages of projects like this one," said McMahon. "We can bring a lot of insights—if we're involved early on."

McMahon noted that over the past 18 months, University United has undertaken a comprehensive industrial study of the Midway neighborhood. He said the city has seemed uninterested in those efforts.

"I took this latest development as adding insult to injury," he said.

McMahon added that planning should be done "in a context that is not linked to a specific development project. A project like this one needs broad-based community involvement. Start talking about things conceptually before you go shopping for a particular site."

*Catholic Charities to page 20*

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Engine House #13, Raymond and Hampden Avenues, about 1900 (Minnesota Historical Society)

## FORMER FIREHOUSE NURTURES CERAMIC ART

by Sabra Waldfoegel

The converted firehouse on Hampden Avenue in south St. Anthony Park combines old and new in a way that is both startling and pleasing. A frieze of tile adorns the space above the doors. Inside, the bright yellow glaze of Connee Mayeron's pots matches the yellow of the stripes on the floor, a reminder of where the fire trucks once parked. This building, with its good bones and great past, has achieved a vibrant reuse.

Today there's a loft on every corner. But in 1979, when Mayeron turned Engine House #13 on Hampden Avenue into her studio and living space, it was a rarity.

Built in 1894, Engine House #13 served as home to south St. Anthony Park's firefighters, and until 1940 it stabled the last horses to draw a fire engine in St. Paul. The first story housed the engines and horses. The second was where the firefighters ate and slept, and where hay was stored for the horses' fodder. Two neat squares in the ceiling are remnants of the hayloft.

Engine House #13 was the last in St. Paul to use animal power, switching to gasoline-powered trucks only in 1940. When the building was up for sale in 1979, elderly neighbors still remembered the days of horse-drawn fire engines.

By 1979, the city had modernized its firefighting and decided to sell the old engine house. The District 12 Community Council and the city worked together to take proposals for the building's new use. "There was a lot of curiosity and a lot of competition for the building," says Mayeron.

Residents proposed restaurants and art studios. One family offered to adopt 10 children and raise them in the space. Mayeron and her husband at the time, Curt Hoard, lobbied for themselves by meeting the neighbors and



Photos by Sabra Waldfoegel

explaining what their plans were. "As an artist, I didn't want my work space to be different from my home," she says. The city and the District Council agreed. They sold Mayeron the building with the stipulation that it feel residential.

The second-story renovation, which was the family's living space, was substantial. Mayeron and Hoard gutted and rebuilt the space.

The renovation jump-started Mayeron's work with tiles. Already a seasoned potter, she taught herself tilemaking in order to cover the bedroom floor with handmade tiles. Firefighters stopped by to see the project's progress. Still attached to their former firehouse, they were pleased at the way it was transformed.

"They were glad that so much care and craftsmanship, so many hand-made things went into redoing the building," Mayeron says.

The remodeled second floor had an open floor plan, with the living, dining and kitchen areas flowing into one another. This open space lent itself to an informal and welcoming social life, Mayeron said. She lives elsewhere now, but she fondly remembers potluck dinners for 50 people, and the ability to easily throw a party for any artist or musician friend who came to town.

While the building's first story wasn't changed as drastically, it looks quite different from its former self. Mayeron left the cement floor intact, but she sandblasted the ceiling and cut off the front stairs, replacing the garage doors with conventional doors and large windows to let in more light. The firefighters' former kitchen became a tiled dressing room. The main room, initially a studio, is now a showroom.

"The space envelops you with warm arms," Mayeron says. "It embraces you with the sense of home. The warmth



of color and feeling is very centering."

She vividly remembers coming home from the hospital after her son was born in January of 1982. "There was a huge blizzard, 17 inches of snow. I was in the hospital for nine days. There are no colors in the hospital. Walking into my home—seeing the floors, the wood, the 14-foot ceilings—was such a contrast with the hospital."

The firehouse space has influenced Mayeron's work. Its light, comfort and warmth are echoed in the things she notices and uses in her art.

"Every day I'm more amazed by colors. When things bloom and grow, what colors happen together? When things die, what colors happen together? Pleasing things influence me. Wanting our world to be a safe and sensual place of experience drives me."

Mayeron has been a potter for 35 years. Baking bread got her started. As a college dropout living in Colorado, she baked six loaves a day and gave away the extras. One of them went to a friend who said, "You should really meet this guy who's a potter." The potter was an eccentric who welcomed her and taught her to throw pots.

Intrigued by the experience, which she calls "tactile" and "intuitive," she taught herself as much as she could, then attended the University of Minnesota for a formal education in ceramic art. There she studied with Warren MacKenzie, the renowned potter and teacher. While she admired his devotion to the Japanese ceramic tradition of stoneware in earth tones, she wanted to go her own way. Laughing, she says, "I liked color!"

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# ILES

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## DOWN AT THE STATION WHEN THE TRAIN'S GONE BY

by Judy Woodward

*"There isn't a train I wouldn't take, no matter where it's going."*

—Edna St. Vincent Millay

Ah, the romance of the Golden Age of train travel, when awaking at night to the sound of a distant steam engine whistle could summon all the remote glamour of places not seen, opportunities not grasped. What in our modern era of air travel can compare?

Yet flagging down the California Zephyr of memory isn't the only way to connect to the bygone era when travel meant something infinitely more romantic than plastic cutlery, long waiting lines and the occasional threat of a shoe bomber.

Some residents of St. Anthony Park can participate in the Golden Age without ever leaving home. For them, the railway mystique has come home to stay because their houses were once the antechambers to the elegant travel rituals of former times and long ago lives.

In short, they make their home in a train depot.

There was a time when passenger train service was as common as the two-car garage that has, in many ways, replaced it. Every little hamlet and town had its own train station. St. Anthony Park had two.

Although the Northern Pacific and the Great Northern trains no longer stop for passengers in the neighborhood, the stations where the waiting passengers gathered—in separate waiting rooms for men and women—are still very much with us.

According to its current co-owner, Mary Hamel, the Northern Pacific station began life in the 19th century about where Bruegger's Bagels now stands on Energy Park Drive. But for more than 100 years, the former station has stood on Commonwealth Avenue, where its deep, six-foot eaves are perhaps the only obvious sign that it was once anything other than a family residence. Hamel said that she and her family had no intention of buying a train station when they moved in a little more than six years ago. "We were looking for a nice house on a quiet street in St. Anthony Park," she said.

A wrap-around porch has altered the exterior of the building almost beyond recognition. So little remains of any identifiable railway structures that Hamel remembers wondering "Did I hear that right?" when the previous owner

Former train stations  
Below: Everett Court  
Right: Commonwealth Avenue



first broached the topic of the station's earlier existence. Inside, the floor plan is much altered from the days when "ladies' and gents' waiting rooms" occupied the ground floor and the stationmaster lived upstairs.

Still, Hamel said, "you can see where the ticket office was." (It's now part of the dining room.) When she and her husband, Jim Snapp, put an addition on the house, they discovered a small ticket window that had been plastered over during earlier remodeling. As they renovated the house, the couple was careful to preserve the depot's style wherever they could. They extended oversized eaves to the new addition at the rear of their house, while they maintained small architectural touches like the original brackets and door.

On the whole, though, their tenure in the former depot has been fairly uneventful. "We haven't seen ghosts or anything," laughed Hamel. She added that the biggest practical advantage of residing in a former train station is that she doesn't have to give some first-time visitors detailed directions to her house. Many people seem to know exactly how to find their way to the old train station on Commonwealth.

If Hamel takes the history of her residence in stride, there is one family member whose reaction is quite different. Seven-year-old Nate, a second grader at St. Anthony Park Elementary, "tells everybody that he lives in a train station. He thinks it's really cool," said his mother.

"Cool" was not exactly the first word that sprang to the lips of Richard Kopp when he first saw his new home, the other former railway depot in St. Anthony Park.

According to Kopp, the Manitowoc Railroad Station, (later to be known as the Great Northern Depot, as James J. Hill's rail empire expanded) was designed by Hill's personal architect, James Brodie, and was built in 1885 at a cost of \$4800. It served as a depot for only a few years before being relocated to its present home on Everett Court in 1901.

For the next several decades, its existence is probably best described as shady. Everett Court was a remote urban hideaway in those days, unpaved and untroubled by such middle-class niceties as indoor plumbing or watchful neighbors. The former railway station was, Kopp says, perfectly suited to illicit activity, and by the Prohibition era it was something of a model moonshine factory. Five readily concealed manholes in the original walnut flooring led directly to the real heart of the concern—individual whiskey stills.

The repeal of Prohibition in 1933 removed the building's main economic purpose; afterward, it continued to sink deeper into decay. Fifty years later, when Kopp saw it for the first time, it was long overdue for a facelift.

Kopp doesn't mince words. "What a dump!" he remembers. "Everett Court was not a highly regarded community when I came here," he said, "and the former depot fit right in." There were 17 broken windows, no working toilets and a group of tenants for whom the most diplomatic adjective was "colorful."

Luckily, there were also compensations. Digging beneath the ruins, Kopp found wide floor planks and original woodwork that had been fashioned from butternut, hickory and pine. He says now, "I bought it as a piece of antique furniture that needed restoration."

Before he could restore, however, he needed to subtract. "I paid \$7000 to get rid of the crappy additions," he said. Gradually, the original lines of the Victorian depot began to emerge from a century's worth of unfortunate architectural accretions. The depot had withstood a hundred years of neglect and abuse, and thanks to Kopp's restorative ability, it emerged unscathed.

"This is one dang solid building," he said. "The house is built like a brick you-know-what."

After 20 years of living on Everett Court, Kopp has become oblivious to the sounds from the Burlington Northern train tracks a mere 150 feet away from his front door. He thinks the neighborhood may have changed somewhat, too.

"There are nine antique homes on Everett Court," he said. "We have our private urban enclave. It's got a 19th-century feeling, with good commercial property and good neighbors around us. Twenty years ago they wanted to bulldoze us. Now they can't afford to."

There are some unexpected pleasures to living in a former train depot, said Kopp. Despite an urban ban on train noise, "whenever the historical (steam) trains come by, they always toot their horn."

Kopp has made every effort to return his depot to its original glory, but he does draw the line at one bit of authenticity. "The station originally had 'Saint Anthony Park' in foot-and-a-half-high letters painted on either side. I thought it was a little pretentious to put that back up."

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## Concert Etiquette 101: A primer for listeners

by Michelle Christianson

With so many chances to attend concerts in this area (Music in the Park, Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra, St. Paul Vocal Forum, plus many church and school performances), more of us than ever are taking advantage of those opportunities.

For some of you it may be the first time at a formal concert, and you may have questions about what is proper and expected behavior. Why do people clap at certain times and not others? How can I make this the most enjoyable experience for others and myself? There should be a manual!

So here is my humble contribution, culled from years of attending concerts myself, as well as the recitals I've held for my piano students.

The prime consideration in all etiquette is politeness—to the performers and to the other concert-goers. The performers would like to concentrate on their performances without distractions, and the listeners would like to be transported from mundane everyday life to another sphere.

In order to be on time for the concert, check out the venue in advance. Where is the parking? How far will you have to walk? Are there other events taking place in the area that might cause a delay?

You should plan to be in your seat no later than 10 minutes before the performance is scheduled to begin, earlier if you need to check your coat. If

you are late and the concert has already begun, wait until a piece or movement has ended, and then quietly take your place. Your goal at this point is to make the least commotion possible.

Most concert venues are chosen with acoustics in mind. This means that any noise in the hall or room will be heard by some or all of the listeners or performers. Your quiet whisper carries farther than you think—don't even consider it while the performance is going on.

We've all heard the message about cell phones and pagers, but what about those watches that beep on the hour? They also need to be reprogrammed so as not to disturb others.

Coughing is a special problem during Minnesota winters, when colds, flu and the resultant coughs proliferate. You may feel healthy enough to attend a concert, but once there you find that annoying little tickle has turned into a choking fit. What can be done?

I always bring cough drops to a concert, whether or not I had a cough before I left home. Be proactive and put one in your mouth before the piece starts, or at least have one unwrapped (remember how noise carries?) so you can pop it in if you need it.

Deep concentration can lead to shallow breathing, which can trigger a cough. Take deep breaths occasionally; this can prevent the tickle. If you are dying to cough and must leave, do so as quietly and quickly as

you can and don't re-enter until the piece is over. If you know you have a cough, be considerate and stay home.

Applause should be reserved for the ends of pieces or, in the case of vocal music, after a group of songs has ended. Do not clap between movements, although I know sometimes the music is so inspiring that the whole audience breaks into spontaneous applause.

Take your cue from the conductor or performers. If they retain the same position as when the music was being played, wait for that slight letdown or for the conductor to lower his or her baton. This is especially important after very moving or quiet works. Give the rest of the audience time to recover before applauding. A few seconds of silence can be quite beautiful after such music.

Not every performance demands a standing ovation. In fact, if there were fewer, they would mean more. If you thought the concert just couldn't have been any better, by all means, stand and applaud. But don't let yourself be bullied into doing it if you don't want to.

On the other hand, polite applause is nice, especially if it extends at least until the performer has left the stage. Leaving while the performers are still on the stage sends the message that you couldn't wait to get out of there.

I'm sure many of these suggestions are already on your radar, but I've seen examples of each kind of bad behavior mentioned here. Here's hoping your concert-going experiences will be enhanced by the important contribution an audience makes to any performance.

(With grateful thanks to Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra Manager Katherine Eklund for her input.)

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# e t c e t e r a

## Neighborhood Forum

St. Anthony Park Neighbors for Peace will sponsor a neighborhood forum on January 9 at the St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ. A dessert potluck starts at 6:30 p.m. At 7 p.m., Phil Steger, director of Friends for a Nonviolent World, will give a talk entitled "A Way Out of Iraq." Everyone is invited.

## Watershed Management

The Mississippi Watershed Management Organization is looking for a representative to serve on its **Citizen Advisory Committee**. The committee will work with MWMO staff to determine priorities for the organization's greening program, which will fund up to \$200,000 in water quality improvement projects in 2005.

Application forms can be downloaded from this Web site: [www.mnwo.org/cac.html](http://www.mnwo.org/cac.html), or requested from Dan Kalmon, 612-673-2687. Applications are due January 4.

## Healthy Pets

The U of M's Department of Veterinary Continuing Education presents two sessions for pet owners on January 19 and 26 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Animal Science/Veterinary Medicine Building on the St. Paul Campus.

Pet owners will develop skills in observing their pet's symptoms. The cost is \$50 for both sessions. To register or for more information, call 612-624-3434, email [vop@umn.edu](mailto:vop@umn.edu) or visit [www.cvm.umn.edu/outreach](http://www.cvm.umn.edu/outreach).

## Raptor Center

The Raptor Center sponsors two events in January.

The "Raptor Tails Story Time" (1:00-1:45 p.m.) session begins January 6 with a series on north woods animals. The January 20 session is entitled "Can you see what I see?"

Children will meet a live raptor, listen to a story and make something to take home. Cost is \$3.50 per child; no charge for adults. One adult per five children required. To register, call 612-624-9753.

The Raptor Center also presents "Owl Prowl" on January 9 and

23 from 1-2:30 p.m. Cost is \$7.50 for adults, \$5 for students or seniors. To register, call 612-624-9753.

The Raptor Center is located at 1920 Fitch Avenue on the U of M's St. Paul Campus.

## Audubon Society

The St. Paul Audubon Society meets at 7 p.m. January 13 at Fairview Community Center, 1910 W. County Rd. B in Roseville.

Melissa Driscoll, a conservation biologist who has worked with the Nature Conservancy and the Land Stewardship Project, will discuss saving the savannah sparrow.

## Schools

The St. Paul School District will host a **Parent Information Fair** on January 22 from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Roy Wilkins Auditorium, 175 W. Kellogg Blvd. in downtown St. Paul.

Parents will be able to meet representatives from more than 150 St. Paul schools and programs, including early childhood education, English language learners, gifted students, special education and more.

The fair is free, and no registration is required. Free parking is available at St. Paul College, 235 Marshall Ave., and the St. Paul Schools Administration Building, 360 Colburne St., with free shuttle bus service.

For more information, call 767-8101 or visit [www.spps.org](http://www.spps.org).

**Twin Cities German Immersion School**, a new charter school opening in 2005, will hold information sessions for parents of incoming kindergarten and first-grade students.

Sessions will be held Jan. 9, 2 p.m., St. Anthony Park Library; Jan. 13, 6 p.m., Nokomis Library in Minneapolis; and Jan. 23, 2 p.m., Merriam Park Library.

For more information, visit [www.germanschool-mn.org](http://www.germanschool-mn.org), email [info@germanschool-mn.org](mailto:info@germanschool-mn.org) or call 492-7106.

## Family Concerts

Music in the Park's 15th **Family Concert Series** starts February 4 with performances by the Daedalus String Quartet. Other concert dates are March 11 and April 29.

Concerts are at 6:15 and 7:30 p.m. at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church. Tickets (\$12 for the series, \$5 for single concerts) may be reserved at 645-5699.



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## Dance theater from page 1

"In 1995, there was the 50th anniversary of the end of WWII," she said. "And there was a scheduled performance by the Minnesota Orchestra of 'Requiem Hiroshima.' I wanted them to add a liner note to the program about Japan's role as aggressor, since the performance painted a picture that wasn't accurate."

The road to getting that note added to the program was long and arduous. Yet, KaiMay persisted with a letter-writing campaign and garnered support from the Chinese American community and from the local Korean and Philippines communities, whose countries also suffered during the Japanese occupation.

Receiving no response from the orchestra, KaiMay planned a candlelight vigil outside Orchestra Hall. Then, two days before the vigil was to take place, the orchestra told KaiMay they would include a complete history about Japanese aggression and occupation in their program notes after all. The orchestra



Photo by Natalie Zett

KaiMay Yuen Terry, Chinese American Association of Minnesota board member

asked her to call off the vigil but she refused.

The result was a balanced view of the event and an awareness of a segment of recent Chinese history that, though painful, needed to be remembered.

KaiMay said, "I simply wanted to serve the Chinese American community, and this opportunity presented itself. There was and is so much to do. I also have a debt to America. They placed a bet on me long ago when I came here, and I want to pay it back by a life of service to let them know I was a good bet."

"We want the community to be proud," she continued. "We love this neighborhood—St. Anthony Park—so we invite people to claim us as your own. Take advantage of the cultural events and come to the New

Year's celebration. We'll be adding more classes soon: yoga (in mid-February), Chinese calligraphy and brush painting. Everyone is invited and welcome."

Performances will be held on Sunday, January 30 (this is a special family day sponsored by CDT and the Families with Children from China-Midwest). On Monday, January 31 there will be three 50-minute shows at 9:15 a.m., 11:15 a.m. and 1 p.m. Although the audiences are primarily schools, all are invited. The shows are at O'Shaughnessy Auditorium at the College of St. Catherine, 2004 Randolph Avenue in St. Paul.

The Chinese Dance Theater is located at 1410 Energy Park Drive, Suite 11. More information is available at [www.caam.org/cdt/default.htm](http://www.caam.org/cdt/default.htm).

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## The Birdman Of Lauderdale by Clay Christensen

The black-capped chickadee is one of my favorite birds. It's often featured, along with the cardinal, on seasonal greeting cards and sweatshirts, and in home décor.

We have two types of chickadees in Minnesota: the black-capped chickadee, found throughout the state, and the boreal chickadee, found mostly in the northeastern portion of Minnesota.

The field guide describes the black-capped chickadee as 4-5 inches from tip of bill to tip of tail. Males and females are similarly patterned with a black cap, black bib, white cheeks and buffy sides.

But there's so much more than those scant facts that's of interest about black-capped chickadees.

The chickadee is a very friendly, sociable bird. One is often within two or three feet of me while I'm out in the yard.

A chickadee once landed on one side of our platform bird feeder while I was adding food to the other side. Several of my friends have had chickadees feed from their outstretched hand.

Watching a chickadee at the feeder, you'll notice that it takes a sunflower or safflower seed in its beak, heads to a nearby twig,

transfers the seed to its feet and then pecks it open to get at the kernel inside. That's because, unlike the beak of a finch or cardinal, the chickadee bill isn't built for seed cracking.

Chickadees make their nest in a cavity. I've seen a nest excavated near the top of a three-foot birch stump. It was intriguing to see a nest site below eye level.

Once, while hiking, my wife and I saw chickadees fly into a tree, but we didn't see them perch or feed. Then they'd fly out again. Only by looking carefully did we see that they were flying right into the open end of a branch that had been broken off sometime earlier. They'd dug out a nest in the end of that punky remnant.

Chickadees may take over an abandoned woodpecker nest, but if they're going to dig a new nest, they'll choose a rotten trunk or branch. With that small chickadee bill, they can't excavate solid wood. They scatter the excavated material over a wide area to reduce the attraction of predators.

The chickadee nest is lined with plant down, moss, feathers, hair and even insect cocoons. The female lays 6-8 white eggs, finely marked with reddish brown. While she incubates the eggs for 11-13 days, the male feeds her.

After another 14-18 days, the youngsters are ready to fledge. They hang around with mom and dad through their first summer.

During the winter, chickadees form stable flocks of up to 12 individuals who forage and roost together. In the spring, migrants of other species, like warblers, often seek out and form loose, mixed flocks with chickadees as they migrate through chickadee territory.

After all, the chickadees are the "residents." They know where the food is, and the newly arrived migrants have learned to follow the chickadees to find the limited sources of food in winter's waning weeks.

When you find yourself out in the woods, especially in the winter, listen for the chickadee's "dee-dee-dee." If they're not immediately to be found, give your best imitation of their call to see if they'll come in.

They'll often be accompanied by downy woodpeckers and possibly even a brown creeper. And you'll feel welcomed to their neighborhood.

Feel free to contact me with your bird-related questions at: [birdmanoflaurerdale@comcast.net](mailto:birdmanoflaurerdale@comcast.net).



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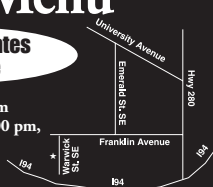
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**Schola Cantorum**  
Church of the Holy Childhood  
1435 Midway Parkway,  
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- "Missa Sancti Nicolai"  
January 1, 12 noon
- Epiphany Mass  
January 2, 10 a.m.

## Visual Arts

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## A Foundation of Neighbors

Saluting A Life of Service

By Glen Skovholt  
Board Member  
St. Anthony Park Community  
Foundation

Elmer L. Andersen left a lasting mark on our state in so many ways. He truly was one of Minnesota's great citizens. He also had a similar impact on Saint Anthony Park, where he and his wife Eleanor lived for over 50 years.

Elmer Andersen's contributions to Saint Anthony Park exemplify community service in the fullest sense. He committed personal time and money, as well as corporate resources, to ensure the health of the community he always considered home.

Elmer's participation in Park life began upon arrival in the 1930's. He was a Scoutmaster, an early and faithful member of the St. Anthony Park Association, a longtime leader in his church, and took an active role in the support of our neighborhood schools. Later, he represented our area with distinction for nine years as a Minnesota State Senator before serving all communities as Governor of Minnesota. (By the way, even though Governor, he never lost his belief in the importance of accessibility; anyone wishing to call him at home could find his telephone number listed in the phone directory.)

Elmer Andersen also set a high standard for corporate responsibility to community, providing support through his company, H.B. Fuller. For many years its corporate

headquarters was located in our community. Today, the company continues its tradition of service to our community through its 30-year partnership with Murray Junior High School, providing assistance through funding and employee volunteers.

Finally, through the creation of the Elmer L. and Eleanor J. Andersen Foundation, Elmer has empowered his family to play an ongoing philanthropic role in the support of worthy nonprofit organizations, including our own St. Anthony Park Community Foundation. This generosity helped fund our start-up, endowment, and the recent St. Anthony Park Neighborhood

Report, which will help guide the future of our neighborhood for the next decade.

Elmer L. Andersen leaves a rich legacy of service. May his life inspire each of us, in our own way, to contribute our time and resources to help preserve this community.



Elmer L. Andersen



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# JANUARY Calendar

## 3 Monday

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

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

• SAP Book Club, Micawber's, 6:30 p.m. "Stones from the River," by Ursula Hegi.

• Como Park & Lauderdale recycling.

## 4 Tuesday

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

• Toastmasters (645-6675), training in effective speaking, Hewlett Packard, 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.), 1:15 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.

• Chair Exercise Classes - Seal High Rise, 825 Seal Street every Tuesday and Thursday at 12:30 p.m. Call 642-9052 to pre-register.

## 5 Wednesday

• Women's Connection, a women's networking organization (603-0954), Hubert Humphrey Job Corps Center, 1480 Snelling, Building #1, 8 a.m. Every Wednesday.

• Leisure Center for Seniors (603-8946), St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Lunch reservations by Monday. Every Wednesday. Free blood pressure clinic by the St. Anthony Park Block Nurse Program 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 11 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

• Bead Ladies, Coffee Grounds, 1579 Hamline Ave. (644-9959). 10 a.m. Every Wednesday.

• Mid-Winter Convocation: "Living out our Callings in the Workplace," Lutheran Seminary, 2481 Como Ave.

• St. Anthony Park recycling.

## 6 Thursday

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

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

• Chair Exercise Classes - Seal High Rise, 825 Seal Street every Tuesday and Thursday at 12:30 p.m. These classes are free to all area seniors, but pre-registration is necessary. Call 642-9052 to pre-register.

• St. Anthony Park Community Council Land Use Committee, South St. Anthony Rec Center, 890 Cromwell, 6 p.m.

• "Faith in the Workplace... and that's Europe," Rick Steves, Luther Sem., 2481 Como Ave., 7 p.m.

• "North Woods Animals," Raptor Center, 1290 Fitch Ave., 612-624-9753, 1 p.m.

## 7 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.

## 9 Sunday

• "A Way out of Iraq," St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church, 2129 Commonwealth Ave.. Dessert potluck at 6:30 p.m., speaker Phil Steger at 7 p.m.

• Information session, Twin Cities German Immersion School (492-7106), St. Anthony Park Library, 2 p.m.

## 10 Monday

• Park Press Inc., Park Bugle board meeting, St. Anthony Park Bank community room, 7 a.m.

• Lauderdale recycling.

## 11 Tuesday

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

## 12 Wednesday

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

## 13 Thursday

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

## 17 Monday

• Como Park recycling.

• St. Anthony Park Block Nurse board meeting, 2200 Hillside Ave., 7 p.m.

## 18 Tuesday

• Free blood pressure clinic and health resources by the St. Anthony Park Block Nurse Program, Seal High Rise (825 Seal St.), 1:15 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.

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

## 19 Wednesday

• Leisure Center for Seniors (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 1st and 3rd Wednesdays 11:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

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

• "When Does Your Pet Need a Vet?" Animal Science/Veterinary Medicine Building, U of M St. Paul Campus, 612-624-3434, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

• St. Anthony Park recycling.

## 20 Thursday

• NCPST Lecture: "Does the Future Need us? Being Human in an Age of Artificial Intelligence," Luther Seminary, 2481 Como Ave.

## 21 Friday

• Storytime for preschoolers ages 3 to 5, St. Anthony Park Library, 10:30 a.m. Pre-registration requested. 642-0411. Every Friday from January 21 to April 29.

• Falcon Heights recycling.

## 22 Saturday

• St. Paul Schools Parent Information Fair, 767-8101, Roy Wilkins Auditorium, 175 W. Kellogg Blvd., 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m..

## 24 Monday

• Great Decisions discussion on international affairs. St. Anthony Park Library, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.. For topic contact Gordon Murdock at 647-9341, murdo001@umn.edu.

• Lauderdale recycling.

## 25 Tuesday

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

## 26 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.

• "When Does Your Pet Need a Vet?" Animal Science/Veterinary Medicine Building, U of M St. Paul Campus, 612-624-3434, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

## 28 Friday

• Storytime for preschoolers ages 3 to 5, St. Anthony Park Library, 10:30 a.m. Pre-registration requested. 642-0411. Every Friday from January 21 to April 29.

Items for the February Community Calendar must be submitted to the Bugle office by 6 p.m., Friday, January 21st.

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## Aging Gracefully by Mary Jo Tarasac

As I stepped over piles of holiday gifts stacked in my living room a few weeks ago, I teetered a bit and realized how easily I could fall and be seriously injured. But there are many other potential dangers in my home—and possibly yours—that are easy to overlook.

At the St. Anthony Park Block Nurse Program, we offer free home safety inspections for older adults. We walk through the home, looking for some of these less noticeable, but potentially injurious, situations. We invite anyone who is interested to call us, but you can also take a little inventory on your own.

### In the kitchen

Do you make sure to turn pot handles toward the back of the stove when cooking? Are cleaning and food supplies stored separately? Are small appliances unplugged and put away when not in use? Are these appliances kept away from the sink and the stove when in use? Are all your electrical cords safe—no frays or splices anywhere, and no overloading? Do you keep a large pan cover or similarly shaped item near the stove to smother cooking fires?

### In the bathroom

Is your hot water adjusted to under 120° to prevent burns (and save money)? Do you turn on

tub/shower faucets from outside the unit? Do you have a ground fault interrupter outlet?

Are there non-skid strips or a mat on the bottom of the tub or shower? If you have difficulty getting up from the tub or toilet, are well-secured grab bars attached to the adjoining wall?

### In the bedroom

Is there a flashlight (with working batteries) within easy reach of the bed? Is there a telephone within easy reach? Do you have a night light or lighted path from bedroom to bathroom?

### In the living room/den

Are walkways unobstructed and well-lit? Are carpets and rugs in good repair and well-secured? Do you have any furniture that needs repair—rickety tables, wobbly chair legs, etc.? Are stair handrails and balconies sturdy and in good repair? Is there a light switch within easy reach of the entryway to each room? Are guns, if any, stored in locked cabinets, unloaded, with ammunition in a separate secure area? Does your fireplace or wood burning stove get an annual safety checkup?

### In your whole house

Are there smoke detectors properly installed, with batteries changed annually? Are furnaces and space heaters kept clean and in good working order, away from items that are flammable?

Are there at least two exits from your house or apartment in case of emergency? Do you have a carbon monoxide detector? Do you have a fire escape plan? Have you practiced it?

If children visit or live there, is your home child-proof? (But that's a whole 'nother column!)

It can seem a bit overwhelming to look over a list like this, and it's easy to tell myself that it's unlikely that my home will be subject to some of the potential disasters referenced in this checklist. So why go to all that trouble?

Because even if it is unlikely that, for example, a fire would break out in your home, if it does, having smoke detectors and a fire escape plan could save your life. Put in that context, every little thing I can do to make my home safer seems well worth it.

Go through this checklist on your own. Or call us and we'll send you a more detailed inventory. Or make an appointment for our free inspector to visit you. But this new year, make sure your home is truly a safe place to live!

*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 [sapbnp@bistream.net](mailto:sapbnp@bistream.net).*

## LIVES LIVED

### Kathryn Ann Marier

Kathryn Ann Marier, age 46, died December 15, 2004. She lived in Hugo and taught at Frost Lake Elementary School.

She is survived by husband, James; children Emy (13) and Michael (10); and brothers James (Karen) Noble and Thomas Noble, of Lauderdale.

A funeral was held Dec. 17 at St. John in the Wilderness Church in White Bear Lake.

### Robert A. Schanke

Robert A. Schanke, age 88, a retired St. Paul high school principal, died December 16 at Rosewood Estates, where he and wife, Alice, had lived for two years.

Mr. Schanke was the principal at Murray High School in the 1960s and 70s. He dedicated his life to family, education, athletics and Camp Braemar.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Wilkie, and is survived by his wife; daughters Lynn (Patrick), Trudy (Gary), Sara (Dennis) and Jo Ellen (Philip); grandchildren Rebecca, Jenny, Nils, Kevin, Kathryn and Joseph; and sister Jean.

A memorial service was held December 20 at Edgumbe Presbyterian Church.

### Richard J. Walsh

Richard J. Walsh, age 36, died in a one-car accident on November 13, 2004.

Dick was born and raised in St. Anthony Park and spent the majority of his adult life in the neighborhood. For the past three years he lived in Spooner, Wisc. He attended Corpus Christi School, St. Anthony Park Elementary, Cretin High School, and spent his senior year at Como Park High School.

He was preceded in death by sister Jeanne. He is survived by son Jacob, parents Dick and Carole, sisters Roxanne (Mike) Gross and Kelly (Tim) Deery, brother Pat (Renee) Walsh, and several nieces and nephews.

A Memorial Mass of Christian Burial was held at Corpus Christi Catholic Church on November 17, 2004.

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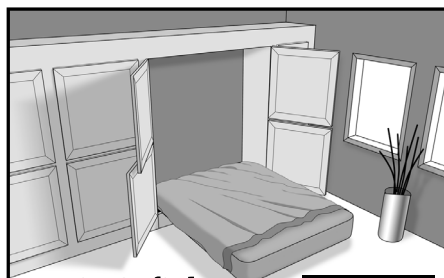
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## Catholic Charities from page 9

Sherm Eagles, a south St. Anthony Park resident and District 2 Council member, said that the fact that the Housing and Redevelopment Association (HRA) approved buying the land without consulting the District Council is troubling.

"This project involves an investment of over \$3 million," Eagles noted. "It seems like there should have been more discussion about this before the decision was made. Is this the best use we have for that money? By the time we heard about it, it felt like a done deal. The preliminary site plan was dated May 2004. Why didn't we hear about it until months later?"

Eagles said that the District Council isn't necessarily opposed to the Catholic Charities project but objects to the process that was used.

"Something like this takes time to work out," he said. "We need to look at the big picture instead of reacting to one proposal at a time. Especially because there's city money involved, there ought to be a larger view."

Carol Hood, director of central services at Catholic Charities, described the attention their proposal has received as "a runaway train." She said that Catholic Charities has been looking for three years for a site to relocate their program for chronic inebriates, currently at 2300 Wyckoff Street. "One of our

board members found out about this property (at 2286 Capp Road), which is just two blocks away," she said.

Hood said that the board then began talking about how CC might expand on their current program at St. Anthony Residence to help address the shortage of housing for the homeless. They presented that idea to the city of St. Paul and received a favorable response from the office of Planning and Economic Development (PED), as well as the HRA, which offered to purchase the property.

However, Hood emphasized that CC doesn't yet have a purchase agreement for the property. "No one here has intentionally ignored the neighborhood," she said. "There's still plenty of time for people to contribute their ideas."

Joan Trulsen, PED's project manager for the CC proposal, said that if the project is carried

through to completion, it will require three public hearings. "Everyone who's interested will have a chance to have input," she said. Trulsen added that PED is committed to working with neighborhood groups and Jay Benanav to achieve a successful solution to any problems the project poses.

Benanav said that when he first learned about the project, he told Catholic Charities and PED that the neighborhood needs to be involved. He said those contacts were not made early enough.

"The City Council approved starting the process," Benanav said. "But I've made it clear that this project can't proceed unless the neighborhood is involved. It would have been better if interested parties had been contacted earlier. Many people assumed it was a done deal. It's not. We're not going to rush this thing through."

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