

Park Bugle

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

Volume 32, Number 12, June 2006

Making something from nothing Local potter will show at Arts Festival

by Natalie Zett

Pottery always fascinated Kate Daly, who often wondered, "How do they make something from nothing?"

Her questions prompted the St. Anthony Park resident to take the plunge to unlock the mystery. In 1999, she enrolled in a class at the Northern Clay Center and was soon hooked.

"This was one of those beginning ceramic classes," said Daly. There

she learned pottery basics: building up the clay, using the potter's wheel, and combining hand-built and wheel-thrown elements. She also learned about glazes and different types of clay.

"I was so intrigued that I just kept taking classes," she said. "It was the one thing that I could do where I forgot everything else, and there was a true mind-body connection in for me. For the longest time, I

wasn't very good at it, and I do have the first thing I ever made as a reminder of that time. But I just kept taking classes."

For Daly, the perseverance paid off.

"In a couple of years," she recalled, "I had developed to the point where I needed my own studio. My first studio was at Fired Up in the Fisk building at Stinson and Hennepin."

Having her own studio increased her productivity and skills. "You have to

make more and more pieces to get better," she said.

After outgrowing Fired Up, Daly moved to an expansive fourth-floor studio in the Northrup King Building at 1500 Jackson St. in Minneapolis. Most of Northrup King's tenants are artists, and the building is a major stop on the annual Art-A-Whirl.

"All my work is functional. I like something that you can use every day."

— Kate Daly



Photo by Christy Myers

On May 5, St. Anthony Park Elementary School held its 50th Anniversary Carnival. The event was also billed as an all-school reunion, and it drew many former students and teachers. Here, Ian Crawshaw contemplates his chances at the duck pond. For more carnival/reunion photos, see page 5.

Daly's studio has everything a potter needs: space, shelves for drying and an electric kiln—her costliest investment.

"Many potters don't have their own kiln and have their work fired by someone else," she said. "But I found that when you have a kiln, everything changes

because when you fire your own work, you have complete control over the process."

Although by the time of her move Daly was well along in her career as a potter, she kept taking classes. "I think the real turning

Local potter to 6

Retail survey points to healthy business community

by Dave Healy

The results are in and the verdict is almost unanimous:

St. Anthony Park residents think that a strong retail community is important to the neighborhood.

A survey conducted in April by the St. Anthony Park Community Foundation found that 97 percent of respondents believe that strong retail is very important or somewhat important. About 600 people completed the survey, over 90 percent of whom live in St. Anthony Park and 20 percent of whom work in the neighborhood.

On May 16 the Community Foundation presented survey results to about 20 local business owners, who discussed them in small groups and made suggestions for how to act on what the survey revealed.

The survey asked, "Why do you use local businesses?" Of eight possible reasons, the top vote-getter was convenience (92 percent), followed closely by "I like to support local businesses" (91 percent). Also ranking high was customer service (65 percent).

Reasons for not using local businesses included limited product selection (63 percent) and prices (49 percent).

The survey also asked, "What new retail would you like

Retail survey to 5

Como-Raymond redevelopment plans continue

by Dave Healy

A proposed auto convenience store and Subway sandwich shop at Como and Raymond avenues is moving closer to fruition.

On May 4, the District 12 Land Use Committee voted to approve most of the requests for variances and rezoning submitted by Como Raymond Properties (CRP) in connection with a proposed redevelopment of the property at 2101 Como Ave. on the southwest corner of

Como and Raymond.

That property was recently purchased by Ned Wesenberg, who also owns Park Service at 2277 Como Ave. Wesenberg wants to remodel the building at Como and Raymond and make substantial landscaping additions to the site. The refurbished building would house an auto convenience store and a Subway sandwich shop. The site would continue to be a BP gas station.

Adding a fast-food restaurant would not be permitted under the property's current business zoning classification (B2).

Accordingly, CRP has asked that the property be rezoned to one of the city's traditional neighborhood classifications (TN2).

That zoning change would in turn require a conditional use permit for the auto convenience store. In addition, the specific site plan submitted by CRP would

necessitate variances for parking, fences, ingress/egress and outdoor storage.

Public comment was taken at the May 4 meeting. Several residents voiced support for Wesenberg, citing his long involvement in St. Anthony Park and his previous attentiveness to neighborhood input regarding changes at Park Service.

Como-Raymond to 8



Drawing courtesy of Stephen Mastey

The 37th Annual St. Anthony Park Arts Festival takes place Saturday, June 3, from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. along Como Avenue from Luther Place to Carter Avenue. In addition to almost 90 exhibitors, the event includes food, entertainment, sidewalk sales, displays by community organizations, a used book sale and a plant sale. On Friday, June 2, the Northern Lights 4-H Club hosts a pie and ice cream social at the Park Midway Drive-up Bank at Como and Doswell avenues.

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**Como Park**

On June 17 the Como Lake Water Festival takes place from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. There will be entertainment, fishing opportunities and hands-on education. Anyone is welcome to join the shoreline cleanup from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. A free lunch will be provided. Contact Debbie Meister (meisterd@qwest.net, 647-6816) to register as a volunteer. Music will be by the acoustic band Coconut Groove. An environmental show will be presented by Trisha and the Toonies.

A community meeting will be held June 20 at 7 p.m. at North Dale Recreation Center. A representative from the mayor's office will be present to talk about budget issues. The public is encouraged to attend.

Lauderdale

On May 9, 30 citizens participated in a Walkable Community Workshop to explore ways to make Lauderdale a safer and more pleasant place to walk and bike. According to Jim

Bownik, assistant to the city administrator, "There were a lot of good ideas shared. Ideas such as these may involve long-term planning, but if there is a vision, as in a comprehensive plan, it will make it easier for the city to accomplish the goals. Our city is so small, it makes sense that we could connect the community better and make it more walkable."

A Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee has been formed. Members are Bob Milligan, Tom Dvorak, Nathan Cook, Kevin Bumgardner, Jeremy Schroetter, John Harpel, Kathy Lerfald, Mary Gaasch, Brian Malzer, Lucy Beddow, Kendra Kauppi and Dan Grothe. Council member liaisons are Clay Christiansen and Karen Gill-Gerbis.

The committee will meet on the third Tuesday of each month. The deadline for completion is September 2008.

Lauderdale has appointed three new members to the Park and Community Involvement Committee: John Harpeo, Kathy Lerfald and Kendra Kauppi.

Planning has begun for Lauderdale's Annual Day in the Park on Saturday, August 19.

Falcon Heights

A recent Falcon Heights food drive collected over 1500 pounds of food for the Keystone food shelf.

The Hamline-Hoyt reconstruction project was approved by the City Council.

Construction will begin after the State Fair and should take from six to eight weeks.

The Falcon Heights Environment Commission has focused its attention on improving Falcon Heights as a clean and environmentally friendly place to live. One idea is to create a community garden.

"A community garden promotes community, helps people to know their neighbors and is a way for people to be more active," said Peter Lindstrom, council liaison to the Environment Commission.

Currently the commission is looking at possible sites for the garden. With many details yet to be worked out, they have a target date of spring 2007 to open. They expect to present a proposal to the City Council for approval later this summer or early fall. Members of the current commission are Amy Onofrey, Deb Tretsven, Frank Meah, Jim Kielsmeier (chairman), Linda Smith, Susan Harding and liaison Peter Lindstrom.

The City Council has chosen Justin Miller as the new Falcon Heights city administrator. Miller, who currently works for the city of Chanhassen, replaces Heather Worthington, who left to become assistant city administrator in Edina.

St. Anthony Park

Nancy Dilts has been welcomed as an ad-hoc member of the Environment Committee.

— Susan Conner

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Seeking enlightenment the SGI way

by Judy Woodward

What do Raphael, Walt Whitman, Leonardo da Vinci, Victor Hugo, Zhou Enlai, Madame Curie and Giuseppe Verdi have in common?

If you answered, "Not much," you clearly have a ways to go on the path to Enlightenment.

Whether they're Renaissance painters, American poets, European cultural heavyweights or Chinese revolutionaries, each of these names has a special significance for the Soka Gakkai branch of Buddhism.

St. Anthony Park resident Nancy Dunlavy, who has practiced Soka Gakkai Buddhism since she was a teenager says, "Buddhist practices help us to get at our greatest selves, our humanity. Each of them is an example of great humanity."

Choosing spiritual exemplars as diverse as Raphael and Zhou Enlai might strike some as unhappily reflective of an à la carte approach to faith. Soka Gakkai adherents respond that, on the contrary, the range of backgrounds shows respect for the universality of human aspiration and potential.

Certainly, diversity has paid off in one respect. The organization begun as an offshoot of conventional Buddhism by a religious dissident in pre-World War II Japan has grown to an extent that could scarcely be imagined by its founder when he lay dying in a Japanese prison during World War II for the crime of denying the authority of the militarist state.

In the last half century, Soka Gakkai has established thriving national organizations in more than 150 countries.

In Japanese, Soka Gakkai means "value creation society." The concept is not easily translatable, but it refers to the individual's capacity both for self-improvement and enhancement of the surrounding world. In America, the group is known as Soka Gakkai International, or SGI-USA. Its regional

headquarters for Minnesota and surrounding areas is located in St. Anthony Park in a small, pale yellow, one-story cinderblock building on Eustis Avenue.

Inside, there's office space and a large, plainly furnished meeting room. Overhead are multicolored pennants that read "Peace" in several languages. Standing prominently in one corner of the meeting space is a large-screen TV.

The room could be the headquarters for any social activist group with an anti-violence agenda, except for one thing. There is a large polished wooden altar at one end of the room, flanked with potted greenery. The altar is bracketed by an American flag on one side and what looks like a United Nations flag with the initials SGI superimposed in red on the other.

On a recent Saturday, a planning meeting drew together two or three dozen SGI members to work their way through an agenda that focused on such mundane tasks as fund raising and their upcoming craft and bake sale.

The group is largely middle-aged and middle-class, mostly white with a sprinkling of faces of color. Cheerful, sensibly dressed Minnesota activists of the sort who form the backbone of hundreds of church organizations, service clubs and support groups, they listened respectfully to a report from their GLBT committee representative and nodded agreeably at the words of one of their number who offered

hints on the best ways to approach the membership for annual contributions. Describe donating, she advised, as "a great opportunity to expand their faith and deepen their understanding."

A stranger was greeted with the kind of eager affirmation familiar to organizations whose members all remember what it was like to be a seeker once themselves.

In the outer office, a twice-a-month volunteer named Tom Rooney from Cottage Grove attempted to explain how the central metaphor of his faith, the lotus flower, makes him "relatively and absolutely happy."

Rooney's task at the moment wasn't made any easier by the presence of a seven-year-old named Michael, who had wandered out of the meeting that held such interest for his parents. Thumbing busily at a hand-held Pokemon electronic game that emitted a bouncy and totally distracting series of beeps and tones, Michael allowed as how, yes, he was a Buddhist, but he would appreciate a little less background chatter.

"Just let me pay attention to this," he said, gesturing toward his game.

It was, somehow, a thoroughly American scene. That's not surprising, maybe, since scholars who have studied the SGI movement have commented on the ease with which the group adapts Buddhist teachings to the local culture of the many places where it has taken root.

Seeking enlightenment to 16

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EDITORIAL

"Where can you grab a sandwich around here?"

That's what you do with sandwiches — grab 'em. In the morning you grab a cup of coffee, at noon you grab some lunch, and later you grab something on the way home from work.

We're a fast food nation, all right. We eat breakfast in the car, lunch at our desks, supper at . . . hey, who's got time for supper?

Several years ago the University of Minnesota's Campus Club was on the verge of closing. Created in 1911 as a place for male faculty members to gather for food and fellowship, the Campus Club eventually opened its doors to female faculty. Despite that expansion, by the 1990s membership was languishing and administrators were contemplating extending membership to staff and students, which they eventually did.

A Minnesota Daily article at the time quoted a faculty member who was on the verge of retirement. "The Campus Club is failing because no one eats lunch anymore," she said. "When I came here, colleagues ate together. No more. Now when I knock on someone's office door at noon, he or she says, 'Sorry, I'm awfully busy.'"

There are contrarians, to be sure. In 1986, journalist Carlo Petrini founded the International Slow Food Movement, which now claims over 80,000 members in 100 countries. That organization promotes agricultural biodiversity and opposes the "standardization of taste." It

"protects cultural identities tied to food and gastronomic traditions, safeguards foods and cultivation and processing techniques inherited from tradition, and defends domestic and wild animal and vegetable species."

This and other critiques of the "fast food industry" usually focus on the second and third words of that location. Eric Schlosser's "Fast Food Nation" shined a light on factory farms, slaughterhouses, meatpacking facilities, food safety and the like. What's happening to our food? Schlosser asked — how it's grown, processed, marketed.

But one could also ask, What's happening to our lives? Why is modern life increasingly a conspiracy against contemplation, against savoring, against taking one's time? Why must food, along with everything else, be fast?

At workplaces where employees punch a clock, the standard lunch break is a half-hour. Junior and senior high school students get 25 minutes. If you have to stop at your locker, stand in line to get your food, and make it to your next class on time, you might have 15 minutes to eat.

Unlike our ancestors, we need not hunt and gather. The biological imperative to eat can be fulfilled with comparatively little time. It can be, but should it?

Slow down, you move too fast. You got to make the morning last.

COMMENTARY

by Amy Sparks

Back in 1975, St. Paul made a remarkable commitment to involve people in neighborhood planning by funding a citywide system of district councils. One of the goals was to build stronger neighborhoods by involving residents in land use planning.

The St. Anthony Park Community Council was one of the first district councils to be established, and members of our volunteer council and committees have been involved in planning and making recommendations to the city about such things as rezoning, variance requests and other land use issues for over 30 years.

Sometimes, a developer will come to the Land Use Committee to introduce things still in the concept state. More often, the District Council learns that a developer or property owner has submitted a request to the city for land use changes, and at that point we add it to the agenda of our Land Use Committee, which meets the first Thursday of every month.

We also recently instituted a practice of distributing flyers to the affected neighborhood to let people know of agenda items of immediate concern. And we're getting the word out through our Web site (www.sapcc.org).

Unfortunately, often there isn't adequate time to notify neighbors. That's because of a state law requiring local governments to approve or deny rezoning, variance or other similar requests within 60 days. The clock starts ticking when the city receives a written request, which is automatically approved if the appropriate body doesn't vote within the time frame.

Within that 60 days, city staff must review a proposal; have it reviewed by city

departments, state or county agencies when appropriate; send out notices to property owners within 350 feet of the affected area; notify the District Council; schedule public hearings and votes for the Zoning Committee, Planning Commission or City Council (or all three); and have a building permit reviewed before the permit is issued.

Once the St. Anthony Park Community Council is notified of an application, we must schedule a meeting and take a position before we miss the chance to influence the city's decision. Cities all over Minnesota struggle with meeting the time requirements of this law.

A recent proposed change in St. Anthony Park is a good example of what can happen. Being a good neighbor, the owner of the BP station at Como and Raymond came to the Land Use Committee to let us know of changes he wanted to make to his property, which would include rezoning to allow a Subway restaurant.

Following our usual procedure, we waited until the application was official before notifying neighbors. The following month, the city let us know that applications for rezoning and variance requests had been filed. That notice came only a few days before our scheduled Land Use Committee meeting, so the flyers sent to neighbors gave little advance notice.

Unfortunately, because of the 60-day rule, we can't just call the city and ask them to wait on an issue because we don't have time to notify the neighbors and reschedule our regular meeting.

The St. Anthony Park Community Council expressed our frustration to the city in a recent letter, which noted that we often have less than a week to gather information, inform

neighbors, schedule a meeting and collect input about a request. Lack of time for these activities compromises community involvement. While the city does its own neighborhood notification, the radius they use is often too small and the time frame too short.

We asked the city to advocate for exemption from the 60-day rule based on St. Paul's size. As the process now stands, opportunity for citizen input is minimized, and the ability of district councils to process requests in time for city deadlines is severely hampered.

It's hard to get excited about the 60-day rule unless you actually feel its impact by facing an imminent change in your neighborhood. But contacting city and state representatives about changing the 60-day rule would be a good thing to do. Such a change would give our District Council more time to inform the community, which would serve our goal of helping you get involved in decisions that

affect your neighborhood.

The St. Anthony Park Community Council Web site (www.sapcc.org), the Park Bugle Web site (www.parkbugle.org) and the SAPark listserve (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SAPark/>) are all good places to learn more about what's happening in St. Anthony Park. Block clubs are also a great way to spread the word quickly when your neighborhood faces changes. The ongoing goal is to improve ways to let people know what's happening.

Even with the best intentions, people don't always agree. This is something neither the city nor the District Council can control. What we can try to do is get the word out and encourage citizens to get involved in decision making. This is the path to an informed, effective and democratic citizenry.

Amy Sparks is the executive director of the St. Anthony Park Community Council.

LETTERS

In May, six students from St. Anthony Park Elementary School competed in the Destination ImagiNation Global Finals in Knoxville, Tennessee.

That team of fifth graders (who call themselves the Fromage Heads) thanks the following businesses for helping us take that trip: Micawber's Bookstore, Salon EQ, Bibelot, Park Midway Bank and the Perfect Little Spa and Salon.

Getting the chance to compete against teams from all over the world was awesome. We also thank all our friends and neighbors who bought our raffle tickets or our baked goods or just

donated to our trip. We are honored by your generosity.

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St. Anthony Park Elementary's 50th Anniversary School Carnival and All-School Reunion was a smashing success. About 2,000 people attended, and the school raised \$9,000, more than twice as much as most years. All the volunteer helpers were kept busy, but none more so than the food servers, who overcame an explosion in the cotton candy machine and who served up so many sloppy joes that they ran out of buns.



Photos by Christy Myers

Retail survey from 1

to see in St. Anthony Park?" Respondents mentioned a pharmacy (42 percent) and restaurant (30 percent), among many others.

In discussion at the May 16 meeting, several people expressed surprise that parking problems were not ranked higher. Only 22 percent of respondents selected "limited parking" as a reason they don't use local businesses. Another question asked, "What actions do you support to strengthen the St. Anthony Park retail communities?" About 32 percent of respondents checked, "Develop more parking."

As one business owner observed, the fact that most people who completed the survey live in St. Anthony Park may have skewed the results. She said it would be interesting to know

how people from outside the neighborhood feel about parking.

The May 16 meeting gave business owners a chance to brainstorm about what they can do to improve the local retail climate. Several lamented the demise of the St. Anthony Park Business Association, and they resolved to begin meeting informally so that they can get to

know each other better and share ideas. They also discussed a possible "shop locally" campaign for this fall.

The Community Foundation hopes to help facilitate these and other efforts. In addition, they will sponsor a community forum on the topic this fall.



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Local potter from 1

point for me happened when I took a ceramics materials analysis course at the U. It changed my whole confidence level. I know how glazes act; I understand the formulas, what materials are made of. It's kind of like cooking, but more involved in that you have to do a lot of sampling, a lot of testing. You have to see how the colors interact."

A potter has to be concerned with more than aesthetics, Daly said. "Things can blow up, but the biggest hazard is inhaling dry clay materials. You should wear a mask. You can also get contact dermatitis, as well as back problems from bending over to throw the clay."

One thing Daly likes about her present studio location is

"First Thursdays." On the first Thursday of each month, artists open their studios to the public from 5 to 9 p.m. Daly enjoys the stream of visitors and fellow artists who stop in to view her work or chat with her about pottery.

Daly downplays her life before pottery, wishing only to focus on her art. She did acknowledge, though, that in 1998 she was a Fulbright scholar to Pakistan, where she taught at the National College of Art in Lahore, conducting research in Afghan refugee camps in Peshawar.

Daly lives in St. Anthony Park with her husband, David, an optometrist and former owner of Village Optics, previously

located where Gustafson Jewelers is now. Their two grown children no longer live at home.

Reflecting on her work, she said, "All my work is functional. I like something that you can use every day."

Last January, Daly spent three weeks in China: Shanghai, Beijing and Taiwan. The trip inspired her to try her hand at scaling down her work to the proportion of Chinese dishes. She has a Chinese-style table setting on display in her studio.

Daly has recently begun participating in shows. She'll be at the St. Anthony Park Arts Festival on June 3. In addition, her work appears in several galleries, including AR Andler in downtown St. Paul and Stone's Throw in Bayfield. She will also be featured at Art, Etc. in Burlington, Wisconsin.

Seven years later, Daly's love for pottery grows. "It's really hard to do but it's always magical. How you can start with a bunch of nothing, like mud and clay, and end up with something beautiful always amazes me."

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Rain gardens will improve Como Lake

by Rebecca Batalden

Some of the most visible additions to the Como Park neighborhood with the recent street renovations are four mulch-filled depressions strategically placed around the neighborhood.

These are to be the new rain gardens the Capitol Region Watershed District is installing this spring. With help from local volunteers, they will be planted on Saturday, June 3.

The Arlington-Pascal Residential Street Vitality Program is a two-year project, and another four rain gardens will be added next spring, for a total of eight in the neighborhood.

The rain gardens were created to alleviate the algae problem in Como Lake, one of St. Paul's most popular lakes. Neighbors and visitors have complained about a decrease in water clarity and quality, and an increase of odors.

Before this area was settled in the early 1900s, wetlands dotted the landscape. Rainwater pooled in these depressions, allowing the water to filter through the soil before arriving in the lake.

Today, impervious surfaces such as roofs, driveways, roads and parking lots cause water to flow directly into the lake. Lawn care chemicals and sediment from roads are carried with the excess water directly into Como Lake.

A rain garden mimics the function of a natural wetland. One of the new rain gardens will be on the corner of Midway Parkway and Hamline Avenue, where many trees were removed last summer.

To reduce flooding, the 75-year-old storm sewers were upgraded. This spring, 500 perennials, shrubs and trees will be planted. Plantings include many native species and those that can withstand wet conditions.

In addition to the rain gardens, the Capitol Region Watershed District is installing nine large infiltration trenches beneath the newly renovated streets. Storm water runoff will

flow from catch basins to a perforated pipe surrounded by rock, which allows water to slowly infiltrate into the ground.

On the southeast corner of Arlington and Hamline avenues, a new underground infiltration structure will be installed. It holds two acre-feet of water and will shepherd the runoff into the ground rather than the storm sewers.

Water from sewers runs through the heavily fertilized Como Park Golf Course and then directly into Como Lake.

In collaboration with St. Paul Parks, the Capitol Region Watershed District is modifying the golf course ponds so that water can be treated before it enters the lake.

In total, \$1.5 million of improvements to aid the water quality of Como Lake will be completed by the end of the fall.

Capitol Region Watershed District Water Resource Specialist Bob Fossum cautions that major improvements in the Como Lake algae problem will not be seen immediately.

"It may take several years before there is a noticeable improvement, and a lot of that has to do with internal loading," he said.

The new rain gardens, trenches and underground structures will help reduce the nutrient load from surface runoff entering the lake, also referred to as external loading.

With internal loading, nutrients are introduced into the water from sediment at the bottom of the lake. This also leads to algal blooms and a depletion of the lake's oxygen supply.

Removing the sediment can help, said Fossum. The Capitol Region Watershed District sponsored a sediment delta removal project where six deltas were removed from Como Lake.

This project was executed with help from the St. Paul Parks and Recreation Department, Ramsey Soil and Water Conservation District, and

Ramsey County Public Works. Still, this is not an immediate fix, and internal loading remains a problem in Como Lake, said Fossum.

The speed of Como Lake's recovery also has to do with climate conditions. More rain throughout the summer will increase the amount of nutrients and sediments that wash into the lake.

Still, because of all the improvements to the Como Park neighborhood, the water quality of Como Lake will certainly improve.



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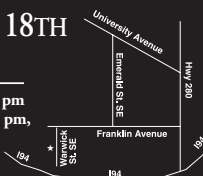
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Como-Raymond from 1

Other people expressed concerns about the proposed redevelopment, including fears that it would increase traffic at an already busy intersection. Also, several residents said that the addition of a fast food restaurant would be at odds with the character of the neighborhood.

Wesenberg said that the proposal would beautify a corner that has deteriorated in recent years. He said that costs for additional landscaping could not be recouped by continuing to operate only a gas station and convenience store on the site, and that adding the Subway would enable him to be profitable.

People at the May 4 meeting heard a detailed presentation from the architects working on the project and saw drawings of what the redeveloped site would look like. The property would be ringed by trees, flowers and ornamental grasses along Como and Raymond. Pedestrian access would be encouraged by a diagonal walkway through the middle of the site.

The Land Use Committee decision was endorsed by the District 12 Executive Committee. The request then went to the St. Paul Zoning Committee on May 11. After hearing public testimony, the committee unanimously approved the rezoning request and conditional use permit.

They also approved variances for 15 parking spaces rather than the required 19, waiver of a required six-foot wall between

residential property and the site, and reduction from 60 feet to 40 feet of the distance between an ingress/egress lane and residential property. The committee denied variance requests for outdoor storage and a required three-foot wall along the site's right of way.

At the May 11 meeting, Wesenberg said that he purchased the BP station in response to a request from the previous owner. He said he plans to spend \$60,000 on landscaping at the Como-Raymond site.

Landscape architect Stephen Mastey said that the proposed plan will increase parking on the site while reducing the amount of impervious surface.

Several neighborhood residents spoke in opposition to the zoning change. Bill Plummer, of 2334 Brewster St., said he represented other residents of the Alden Square neighborhood, which is located southeast of the BP station. Plummer said they support beautification of the corner but don't think rezoning is necessary to accomplish that.

Plummer said the proposed plan would increase congestion at the intersection, put more pressure on already strained parking in the immediate area, and further endanger the pedestrian crossing at Raymond and Gordon, just south of Como. He predicted the addition of a fast-food restaurant would add 650-700 vehicles a day to the area.

Plummer also complained that residents did not receive

adequate notice of the redevelopment plans, and he asked the Zoning Committee to at least delay a decision in order to give residents more time to discuss the matter.

Alden Square resident Erik Jordan said that beautification on the site is being used to justify fast food and questioned whether that "Faustian bargain" makes sense.

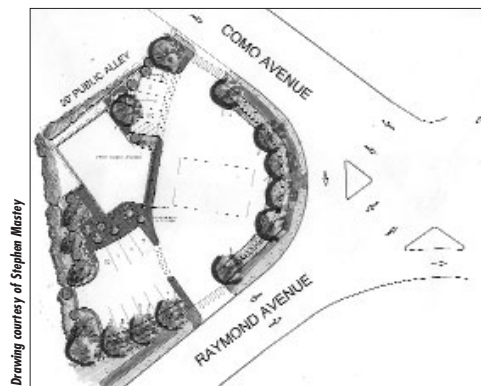
Robert Warde said that a fast food restaurant would not fit the character of the neighborhood. He echoed Plummer's request for a delay on the rezoning decision.

Speaking in support of the rezoning, Jeff Lunde, who manages the Subway at 2121 University Ave., said that the previously cited figure of 650 new vehicles a day was grossly inflated.

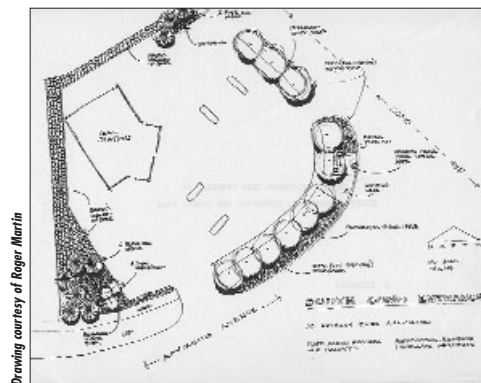
Philip Broussard, the project's building architect, said they predict significant walk-in traffic at the new restaurant. He added that most St. Anthony Park residents who now want to go to a Subway travel by car, so Subway is already generating automobile traffic in the neighborhood.

On May 19, the St. Paul Planning Commission unanimously ratified the decision of the Zoning Committee. The zoning change must also be approved by the St. Paul City Council.

Pending final approval, Wesenberg hopes to begin refurbishing the site in June.



Drawing courtesy of Stephen Mastey



Drawing courtesy of Roger Martin

A recent proposal by Como Raymond Properties to remodel the Como-Raymond intersection demonstrates that St. Anthony Park has a history of valuing its landscapes.

The two drawings at left are separated by nearly 40 years. The top one was prepared recently by Stephen Mastey of Landscape Architecture Inc.

The bottom drawing is by Roger Martin, a retired faculty member from the Department of Landscape Architecture at the University of Minnesota. It was part of a community study by the St. Anthony Park Association, under the direction of Frederic Steinhauser, which was published in 1969.

Mastey had never seen Martin's drawing before completing his own. Reacting to the obvious similarities between the two sketches (among other things, both incorporate dogwood along the property's southern edge), Mastey said that Martin was his adviser at the U of M, adding, "I guess a few things must have stuck with me."

Martin said his work for the St. Anthony Park Association was one of his first independent consulting projects. "It was a nice opportunity to work with people who value their environment," he said.

Chinese immersion school plans fall opening

by Lisa Steinmann

Emma, four years old, with a black ponytail that pops off the side of her head like a slender bunch of prairie grass, repeats the word and gesture as her teacher holds up fingers and names a number. Emma is learning to count in Mandarin Chinese. She is not only practicing the word for each number but the unique finger sign as well.

Larry Yan, director of the Minnesota Chinese Daycare and Learning Center (MCDLC), explains that the Chinese use one hand to show the numbers from one to ten. The idea is that each finger sign suggests the Chinese character for that number.

Emma is part of a unique community of preschoolers made up of children from Chinese families living in the Twin Cities and children adopted from China by local families. She attends MCDLC, which is located in St. Christopher's Episcopal Church in Roseville.

Yan founded the center six years ago with one child. This year the center has enrolled nearly 100 children. It offers daycare and preschool for Chinese language learners and Chinese children learning English. The school has activities in English, Chinese language, dance, music and art.

As MCDLC has grown, so has the demand for opportunities to continue learning Chinese after preschool.

Kristina Schatz, Falcon Heights resident and mother of a bilingual daughter at MCDLC, has devoted herself to meeting that demand. She is the start-up coordinator for Yinghua Academy, a Chinese immersion school that will open this fall.

"This will be the only Chinese immersion school in the state and among a handful of such schools in the U.S.," says Schatz.

Yinghua Academy will become one of the nearly 125 charter schools now operating in Minnesota, three of which are language immersion schools. Charter schools are public schools open to all applicants and do not charge tuition.

Yinghua Academy is currently enrolling students entering kindergarten and first through third grades. Nearly 70 children from communities all over the Twin Cities have signed up to attend next fall. The school will be located at 1355 Pierce Butler Route in the Hamline Midway neighborhood.

Unlike a typical public

school, charter schools are free to tailor their curriculum to the unique interests of a community. Yinghua Academy's founders have been working with their board of directors and with Tara Fortune, immersion projects coordinator at the University of Minnesota's Center for Advanced Research on Language Acquisition, to create a comprehensive and challenging curriculum.

The academy's director, Betsy Lueth, has experience in charter schools as a former fifth-grade teacher at Academia Cesar Chavez, a charter school on the east side of St. Paul.

"I love charter schools," she says. "They are absolutely necessary to offer school choice." Lueth's background includes studies and jobs in English, German and Spanish. She is also the mother of a daughter, Lucy, adopted from China. She thinks that her diverse language background is an asset.

adoptive parents like Schatz, as well as members of the Twin Cities Chinese community.

Larry Yan, MCDLC director, is also a board member. He says the Chinese community that Yinghua Academy intends to serve continues to grow.

Since the late 1970s, when China opened up to the West, the native Chinese community in Minnesota has expanded to 20,000. The University of Minnesota has the largest community of Chinese scholars and students in the United States, according to Yan.

Yan himself came to this country from China in 1989 to study education at St. Thomas University. His son was 11 when the family came to St. Paul. He says there are families like his own who want their children to maintain and further their knowledge of their native Chinese in addition to learning English.

"Kids need school to continue learning Chinese," says Yan.

Like many adoptive parents, Kristina Schatz and her husband traveled to China to finalize the adoption of their daughter, Kai Lu. She says, "The day we were leaving China, I felt very sad. It is such an amazing place. It has such a beautiful culture. I just thought, this

has to be a part of her life."

St. Anthony Park resident Katherine Quie sees both a practical and emotional benefit for her daughter Emma, who will attend Yinghua Academy next fall. Emma was adopted from China when she was 13 months old. Since her arrival in Minnesota she has continued learning Chinese at the daycare center.

In addition to speaking Chinese at school with teachers and friends, her mother says, "Emma speaks Chinese to herself when she is alone in her room. I think she finds it self-soothing." She adds, "Some day, if she chooses, it may provide emotional ties to China. She'll be able to connect with elders."

Yinghua Academy will hold an open house Saturday, June 3, from 4 to 5 p.m. at 1355 Pierce Butler Route in St. Paul. There will also be an informational meeting at the Roseville Library (2180 Hamline Ave. N. in Roseville) on Saturday, June 17, from 3 to 4:30 p.m. For more information about the school, visit www.yinghuaacademy.org.

When asked to compare education challenges today with those of previous generations, she says, "Our children are dealing with a different, smaller world."

Yinghua Academy's curriculum will reflect community "bridge building" between language groups, Lueth says. Students will study the same school subjects — math, reading and writing — as students in other St. Paul schools, but the language of instruction will be Mandarin Chinese. The curriculum will prepare them to be knowledgeable about both American and Chinese culture.

Students in kindergarten and first grade will experience "full immersion" during the learning day. For students entering this fall in second or third grade, classroom instruction will be in English with daily language classes in Mandarin Chinese.

The academy hopes eventually to expand the school to K-8.

Charter schools must have a board of directors. Yinghua Academy's board includes

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Arts Events

IFP Minnesota presents an exhibit of black-and-white photography and a screening of Super 8 films by students from St. Paul's Creative Arts High School. The show, "Focus," will run June 2-9 at 2246 University Ave. W. On June 2, a reception will take place from 5 to 7 p.m.

Gardening

The St. Anthony Park Garden Club will hold its annual plant sale at the Arts Festival on June 3. In addition to the usual array of plants, the club will sell a recently published cookbook with recipes contributed by local merchants, including Muffuletta, Mim's Cafe, The Little Wine Shoppe, Micawber's and Speedy Market.

The spiral-bound cookbook has over 100 ethnically diverse recipes covering appetizers, soups, breads, main dishes and desserts. It sells for \$12.50, and after the festival will be available at Speedy Market.

Proceeds from sales of the cookbook will be used for improvements in the neighborhood. The Garden Club maintains plantings in front of the St. Anthony Park Library, holds biannual garden tours and gives scholarships to local horticulture students.

The club meets at 6:30 p.m. the first Tuesday of the month from September through May at the library.

Water Festival

The annual Como Lake Water Festival will take place Saturday, June 17 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., rain or shine. From 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., volunteers will clean up the shoreline around the lake. A free lunch will be provided by Black Bear Crossings on the Lake.

From noon to 4 p.m., in front of the Schiffman Fountain, near the Lakeside Pavilion, the festival continues with activities, demonstrations and performances. Music will be provided by the acoustic band Coconut Groove, and Tricia and the Toonies will present a puppet show.

Cleanup volunteers should register ahead of time by contacting Debbie Meister at meisterd@qwest.net or 647-6816.

The event is sponsored by the Capitol Region Watershed District, Black Bear Crossings on the Lake, the District 10 Community Council, and the St. Paul Division of Parks and Recreation.

Photo Contest

The Capitol Region Watershed District is sponsoring an **urban natural resource photo contest**. Photos must be taken within the district and should feature area attractions, wildlife or outdoor activities. Contest organizers are looking for photos of all four seasons.

Entries must be received by October 13, 2006, and should include the following information:

- Name
- Address
- Phone number
- E-mail (optional)
- Location of photo
- Title of photo
- How you heard about contest

Photos can be prints or digital, and must be in color and a horizontal format. Submit photos by mail or electronically: Debbie Anderson, Capitol Region Watershed District

1410 Energy Park Drive #4
St. Paul, MN 55108
or debbie@capitolregionwd.org

Contestants must know the names and addresses of all identifiable people in the photo. Winners must supply a release form for each identifiable person.

Thirteen photos will be selected for publication in a calendar.

Horse Show

The **Tanbark Cavalcade of Roses Horse Show**, Minnesota's largest American Saddlebred show, will be held June 28-July 1 at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds Coliseum. Admission is free.

Now in its 52nd year, the show will include 130 different competitions in English and Western riding, driving, pleasure horses, and three- and five-gaited horses.

Sessions will be held 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m. and 7-10 p.m. Wednesday-Friday, and 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m. and 6-10 p.m. Saturday. For more information, visit www.msha.org.

Baseball Camp

Hamline University will host a three-day baseball camp June 19-21. Players entering grades 1-3 will receive an overall primer on baseball. Players entering grades 4-12 can select from three options: infield/outfield, catchers and pitchers. The cost is \$98 per session.

To register, visit www.baseballacademy.net or call 1-866-MBA-HITS.

Video Workshops

IFP Minnesota will sponsor two video workshops during July. Mike Hazard will lead "A Video Adventure" for ages 12-15, July 10-14, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Topics include scriptwriting, storyboarding, visualization, directing, sound, digital cameras and computer editing.

John Gwinn will lead "Digital Storytelling," July 24-28, 1-4 p.m. for ages 9-11. Students will learn scriptwriting, preproduction, production and editing skills.

The cost for each workshop is \$240. Workshops take place at the Center for Media Arts, 2446 University Ave. W. To register or for more information, call 644-1912, ext. 105.

by Cyndi Kaye Meier. Sessions are from 9 a.m. to noon at Falcon Heights City Hall. Cost is \$47 for residents, \$52 for nonresidents. To register or for more information, visit www.ci.falcon-heights.mn.us or call 792-7616.

Infant and Toddler Classes

Jo Behm, an early childhood and family educator, will lead two summer programs for infants, toddlers and their parents.

Busy Babies is for ages 0-12 months and will be held Wednesdays, June 21-July 19, 9-10 a.m.

Temendous Toddlers is for ages 12-24 months and will be held Wednesdays, June 21-July 19, 10-11:30 a.m.

Both classes are at Falcon Heights United Church of Christ. The drop-in fee is \$3; registration for all five sessions is \$12. To register or for more information, visit www.ci.falcon-heights.mn.us or call 792-7616.

Swimming & Drivers Education

St. Paul Public Schools offers Red Cross swimming lessons at two locations:

Como Senior High
June 19-29, 1-3 p.m.
July 17-27, 1-3 p.m.
June 13, 20, 27; July 11, 18, 25, 5:30-8:30 p.m.
Murray Junior High
July 5-14, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
July 31-August 10, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Cost is \$40-\$50.

Drivers education classes will be offered at two locations:

Como Senior High
June 19-30, 9 a.m. to noon
July 17-28, 12:30-3:30 p.m.
Central Senior High
June 19-30, 9 a.m. to noon
July 17-28, 12:30-3:30 p.m.
Cost is \$295. Students must be 15 years old.

For more information about these and any SPSS summer classes, call 632-6020.

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Quilting Camp

Falcon Heights Parks and Recreation will offer a Creative Quilting Camp, June 12-16, for ages 9-13. The camp will be led

Raptor Center

The Raptor Center will hold three Family Fun Nights in July. Sessions are 5:30-7:30 p.m. at 1920 Fitch Ave. on the U of M's

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July 13: Adventures in Falconry

July 20: The Wonder and Wizardry of Owls

July 27: Eagle Tales

The Raptor Center is also seeking volunteers in these areas: education volunteer, lobby volunteer and transport volunteer. For more information, call 612-624-3928 or visit www.theraptorcenter.org.

Gibbs Museum

In addition to regular daily programming, the Gibbs Museum of Pioneer & Dakotah Life offers special weekend events. The museum is located at the corner of Larpeteur and Cleveland avenues.

July 2-4: Ice Cream

Learn how to make old-fashioned ice cream.

July 8-9: Antique Appraisals

July 15-16: Wedding Day
Celebrate a turn-of-the-19th-century wedding.

July 22-23: Country Festival

Enjoy music, crafts, games, and homemade ice cream and lemonade.

July 29-30: Prairie Walk and Tea
Stroll through the Gibbs prairie and learn to identify native grasses and wildflowers, then repair to the Gibbs House for tea.

Photography Workshops

St. Anthony Park photographer Doug Beasley will lead several Vision Quest photo workshops this summer.

July 2-8, Zen and the Art of Photography, Santa Fe, N.M.

July 24-28, Spirit of Place: Whidbey Island, Coupeville, Wash.

Sept. 17-21, Photography with Heart, Breitenbush Hot Springs, Oregon Mountains.

Information: 644-1400, info@beasleyphotography.com, www.beasleyphotography.com.

People

On June 4, two Como Park High School students will receive Spotlight Awards from the Hennepin Theatre Trust in a ceremony at Pantages Theatre.

Honored for their performances in "Les Miserables" will be **Kinsey Diment**, for outstanding performance in a leading role (Eponine), **Zachary Johnston**, for outstanding performance in a supporting role (M. Thenardier), and **Andy Arvidson**, honorable mention in a supporting role (Enjolras).

Two St. Anthony Park residents, **Anya Abrahamson** (19) and **Gier Abrahamson** (16), will perform this summer in Threshold Theatre's production of "Emma's Child" by Kristine Thatcher. The play is about a couple thrown into turmoil at the birth of their long-awaited adoptive child, who is born with severe physical and mental challenges.

Performances will be July 14, 15, 20, 21 and 22 at the LHUM Stage, 4901 Chowen Ave. S. in Minneapolis. Shows are at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$6 for 16 and under. Call 763-588-3700 for ticket information.

St. Anthony Park resident **Julie Causey**, of Western Bank, was named by St. Paul Mayor Chris Coleman as co-chair of the city's Central Corridor Development Framework Task Force. Also serving on the task force is Bob Straughn, a St. Anthony Park resident and attorney.

St. Timothy Lutheran Church, located at 1465 N. Victoria St. in the Como Park neighborhood, recently installed **Rev. Ruth Sorenson-Prokosch** as their new associate pastor. She previously served as interim pastor of visitation and pastoral care at Roseville Lutheran Church.

Molly's Gardens: a nontoxic alternative

by Rebecca Batalden

Molly Rosenberg wants you to fuss over your garden, but she hopes you'll be careful what you put on it.

A year ago, the Como Park resident quit her job at a garden center and started her own floral design and gardening service, Molly's Gardens. Her main motivation was to provide an alternative to what she saw as an overemphasis on chemical solutions to gardening problems.

Now, whether she is maintaining a client's garden or working on a flower arrangement for a special event, Rosenberg always emphasizes organic and nontoxic methods.

Rosenberg explains, "I'm trying to bring the natural part of gardening back into it, because it seems like it's gotten so far away from that."

Rosenberg studied horticulture at the University of Minnesota and worked at garden nurseries for over 10 years.

While that work was satisfying, she came to the point where she could not sell any more chemicals to customers in search of the perfect lawn or insect-free garden.

And she was frustrated at the lack of information available for people in search of a nontoxic approach.

"If you had a problem that you wanted to solve organically," Rosenberg said, "nobody could tell you how to do it. All they can do is sell you a chemical."

Rosenberg knew that these "unnatural" solutions to people's gardening problems were not the only way to achieve a beautiful yard.

Molly's Gardens helps people with a wide array of services. She will design and install complete gardens or help revitalize an existing bed. She also maintains gardens on a weekly basis or as needed.

Some of her clients work alongside her, while others give the task entirely to her.

In the floral design side of Molly's Gardens, Rosenberg caters to weddings and other special events by using fair trade or locally grown organic flowers.

Some cut flowers are grown in countries where laws regarding pesticide use are less stringent. Before Rosenberg switched to organic arrangements, she could feel the effects of these chemicals on her health.

"I got so sick and I can't tolerate them anymore. I just can't be around them. I honestly believe that they are making people sick. And so that's a good reason to stay away from them."

By avoiding chemicals, Rosenberg said, gardens are healthier and require less maintenance.

For example, she said, only a few of the insects found in a typical yard are harmful. Using a general insecticide kills beneficial insects along with pests, which can causing larger pest problems in the future.

Additionally, synthetic fertilizer and pesticides break down soil structure, pollute groundwater and pose health risks.

If a plant develops a disease, often the first impulse is to run to the nearest garden center and buy a chemical.

Rosenberg said that safer products can be made at home, or the plant's natural defenses may successfully fight the disease without assistance.

Lawn care is another area where nontoxic methods can be safer and less expensive, said Rosenberg. Although Molly's Gardens does not typically provide lawn care, Rosenberg will give tips to homeowners.

"There are ways to make lawn care easier, and if you do it the right way, you will probably have less trouble," she said.

According to Rosenberg, chemical lawn fertilizers are not only unnecessary but can actually damage soils and worsen lawn care problems. If one does decide to use a fertilizer, she said, organic is best. It should only be applied once a year, in the fall. A healthy lawn will naturally crowd out weeds.

Rosenberg also encourages homeowners to try native plants, which are better adapted to Minnesota's climate and thus require less maintenance.

Some people picture a wild prairie filled with unkempt grasses, but Rosenberg gardens with native plants in much the same way as cultivated species.

Rosenberg said that organic products, nontoxic methods and native species can yield a low-maintenance and sustainable landscape. More information is available at 646-0162 or www.mollysgardens.com.

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COMO AVENUE BUSIN

Tires, oil, ownership – gas stations are all about change

by Anne Holzman

The two gas stations on Como Avenue in St. Anthony Park are all that remains of what was once a busy strip of filling and service stations, stretching from Snelling to Doswell and serving the Fairgrounds and the University of Minnesota as well as St. Anthony Park residents.

Nick Mayers, who took over Park Service at 2277 Como after his father died, said he thinks there were once seven stations in that strip, mostly owned by national companies.

Now the two remaining are both owned by Ned Wesenberg, who bought Park Service from Mayers in 1999 and purchased the BP at Como and Raymond earlier this year.

Nick's father, Paul Mayers, once owned a Texaco station on the corner of Doswell and Como, where the Healy Building now stands. Another gas station was across Como where the Park Midway Drive-up Bank is located.

Meanwhile, at 2277 Como stood "the co-op," which Nick Mayers recalls was named Park Cooperative Oil Association, "a real, bona fide co-op" owned by neighborhood residents that had

started "sometime in the 30s."

When the Texaco station was torn down in 1964, the co-op was looking for a manager, and Paul took the job. He died in 1967, at the age of 57, at which point Nick took over, along with his wife, Carole.

The co-op was failing, Mayers said, and he tried to buy the property but was outflanked by Mobil Oil, which bought the lot and became the co-op's gas dealer.

"I went to those co-op management meetings," he said. "That was from '65 to '72."

Mayers became frustrated with the group's inability to manage its finances, especially distributing stock dividends.

"I told them they had a last man's club — the last guy living is gonna end up owning it," he said.

Even though he couldn't buy the property, Mayers eventually bought out the business and ran it until he retired in 1999, finally purchasing the land and building only a few months before selling the entire operation to Wesenberg, one of his employees.

The old co-op building was "right on the sidewalk" along Como, Mayers said, and Mobil put up the new one behind it that now houses Park Service, closing off an alley in the process.

He remembers when a tanker blew up in the mid-70s. "My kids saw me on TV that night," he said.

The damage, including knocked-out windows, led to improvements such as bricked-in walls. "Everybody liked it" in the end, he recalled.

The national strategies of oil companies have affected local landscapes over the years. As Nick and Carole Mayers explained it, Texaco dropped many of its northern locations around the time Paul Mayers' station was removed, and Mobil was hunting for opportunities here.

In 1987, Unocal took the Park Service contract from Mobil in "a 20- or 30-some station trade, nationwide," Nick Mayers said.

Ned Wesenberg, current owner of both remaining stations on Como, said he thought the oil company called 76 had been involved at one point, too. He now has a contract with Citgo on the one-acre lot at Park Service and with BP at the corner of Como and Raymond.

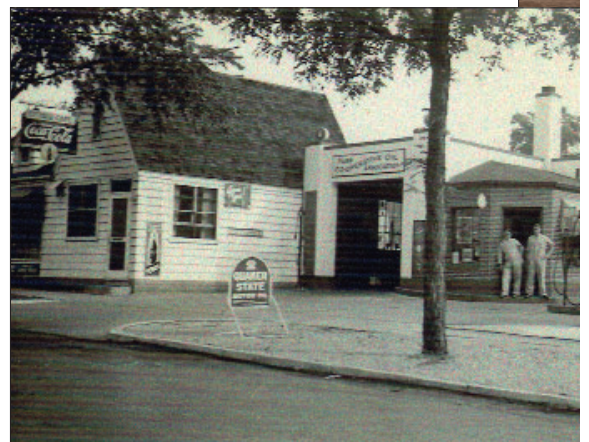
Oil companies sometimes still own the stations, Wesenberg said, but in his case, Mayers bought the Park Service property before selling it and the business to him, and he bought the BP property and business from Chuck Mason.

"Basically what you're doing is you're flying their flag, you're moving their product," Wesenberg said.

He makes long-term contracts with the oil companies — the BP contract runs for 15 years — but is free to change dealers if needed.

"It's who you're comfortable with. Citgo has proven itself," he said.

Whereas oil companies used to insist on particular colors of paint and other details, Wesenberg can now do whatever landscaping and improving he wants and set his own hours.



Gas stations to 14

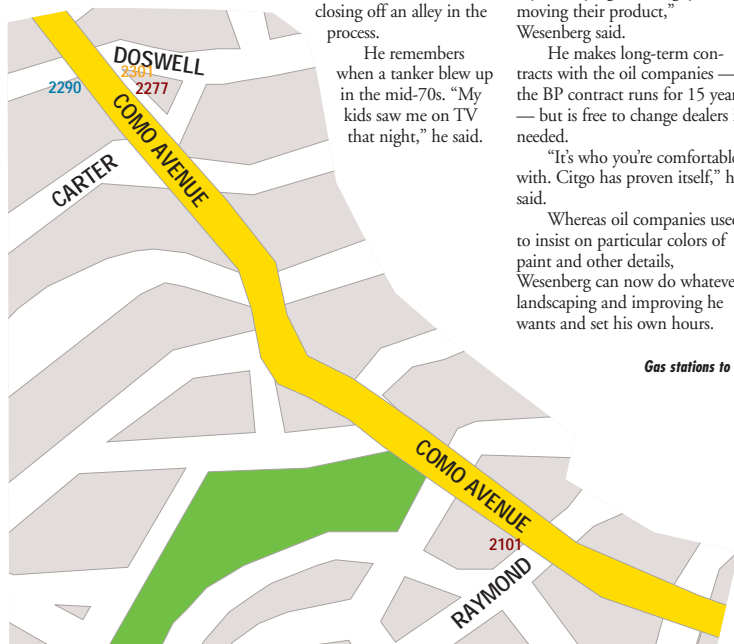
Como Avenue between Doswell and Carter was once home to three gas stations. were on the north side of Como, and Paul Mayers worked at both. Mayers owned station at Como and Doswell. When that station was torn down, he became man Cooperative Oil Association down the street. After he died, his son Nick took over

Upper left: (l. to r.) Edgar Larson, Jack Pearson, Charles Haynes. The co-op was P paying job. He started working there in high school and continued part time while college. Pearson still lives in St. Anthony Park, as does Larson's son, Jim. (Photo courtesy of Jim & Rachel Larson)

Above: The co-op was next door to a small restaurant. (Photo courtesy of Jim & Rachel Larson)

Upper right: The Texaco station sat on the site now occupied by the Healy Building (Photo courtesy of Nick & Carole Mayers)

Right: Paul Mayers and some local car enthusiasts listen to the hum of a finely tuned (Photo courtesy of Nick & Carole Mayers)



ESSES

The Bugle continues its series profiling businesses along Como Avenue in St. Anthony Park. The area is part of a recent retail survey conducted by the St. Anthony Park Foundation, and it is the subject of a small area plan recently begun by the District 12 Community Council. This series will continue through the summer.

Rumors fly concerning fate of Healy Building

by Anne Holzman

A plaque announces the name of the Healy Building on the northeast corner of Como and Doswell, at 2301 Como Ave. Henry Healy put up the brick-and-glass office building in 1967 to make more room for his business, the Healy Food Testing Laboratory, which he moved there from the basement beneath what is now Micawber's Books.

Ellen Healy, who married

Henry's son John, still lives in her house near the building, at 2228 Doswell. She said her husband worked all his life in the lab and took over the business when his father retired. "I think we sold the lab in '76," she said, and a few years later the building, with 7,728 square feet of space, was sold to current owner Steve Wellington of Wellington Management.

Perfect Little Spa and Salon now occupies part of the lower level, with dentist Frank Steen, Como Rose Travel and the St. Anthony Park Development Center above. Ellen Healy said there has been a similar mix of businesses sharing the upper floors all along.

Wellington said that although the building is "outmoded," lacking handicap access and having outdated heating and cooling systems, office space for small businesses is a viable long-term use for a building in that spot, and though it would be possible to update the building "for the next 20 years, we have to consider redevelopment."

Rumors have been flying about potential uses for that corner, including the idea of condominiums. Wellington denied having any immediate plans to make major changes in the building, partly because there are tenants with long-term leases, although he admitted to having launched rumors by making a sketch of how condominiums might fit on the corner. He gave a "three- to five-year horizon" for possible redevelopment and said he gets plenty of offers for the

property. "I've had a flurry of calls recently," he said.

Psychologist Cheri Desmond-May, who meets with clients in the softly-lit Development Center offices on the top floor, where classical music drifts through the waiting room, expressed worry about the fate of the building. She and two colleagues share the space, offering individual, couple and group therapy. One also travels in the metro area consulting for organizations.

She said the majority of their clients come from St. Paul, but "I've had people come from as far as Chaska and Woodbury." She appreciates the "small-town center," where she feels safe coming and going at odd hours. And her clients appreciate the services nearby. "My clients go to Bibelot or go get a cup of coffee," she said.

"There's not that many livable communities in the Twin Cities," Desmond-May said, and she's afraid that Park Midway Bank's plans to build a larger office on the corner across from her practice may upset the block's character. The biggest loss, she said, will be the "community gathering place" in and around

Ginkgo in the Park.

She said tenants of the Healy Building have talked about the possibility of a local group buying the building and turning it into a gathering space to replace what she fears will be lost across the street, "finding a way to preserve what's here."

Ellen Healy expressed concern about the idea of building condominiums on the block. "Doswell is such a narrow street; I can't imagine how the traffic would go," she said.

Wellington, who lives in St. Anthony Park, acknowledged "there are a number of changes in the wind." He said that while condominiums would be a tight fit on the block between Doswell and Carter, the neighborhood needs denser housing, partly to support its struggling retail.

He said a more detailed neighborhood plan is needed, and that citizens should work closely with the District Council and try to anticipate change so they can weigh in when the time comes.

He said his biggest concern is to preserve and expand retail. "To me that part of our community is very important, and yet it's so fragile."



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Park Hardware's future in limbo

by Clay Christensen

What possible connection could there be between an ice rink in southern Australia and a hardware store in St. Anthony Park?

Back in 1979, Holmsten Ice Rinks, a St. Anthony Park business, was providing the ice rink for an Australian company building a winter resort west of Sydney.

The Australians asked Holmsten to supply three snowblowers and insisted on a well-known Minnesota brand. Holmsten turned to Stew and Kathy McIntosh at Park Hardware, who had the challenge of locating snowblowers in the summer.

After contacting several other hardware stores, the McIntoshes

found the snowblowers, prepared them to withstand a sea voyage and shipped them to Australia. It was the largest gas-powered equipment sale they ever made.

The McIntoshes never stocked any gas-powered machines when they owned Park Hardware. Stew says they didn't have the room. Rather than power mowers, for example, the McIntoshes kept their eyes open for used reel mowers, which they reconditioned and sold at the store.

There's been a hardware store in St. Anthony Park since 1919. It started as a mercantile store in a part of the building that is now the Muffuletta. From there, the store moved to 2278 Como, now a dental office. After that

building had a fire in 1946, the hardware store moved to its current location at 2290 Como.

That building was built in 1940 by the McAlpine family of Carter Avenue, who owned it as income property. It was a gift store for a time. When the hardware business moved in, it was run by Bill Floren.

Back then, there was a shack behind the building where Leon Wolfing, a well-known local character, had his electrician's shop. At the end of World War II, when the hardware business moved in, it began offering major appliances and built a garage on the back of the building, ending Wolfing's use of the property.






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Gas stations from 12

He's added a car wash and outside vacuum, "little improvements here and there," since buying Park Service. He has about 10 employees at Park Service, and another five at the BP.

Carole Mayers praised Wesenberg's management. She would have liked to make more improvements during her tenure helping run the operation, she said, but the lack of a deed on the property hampered the Mayers' efforts.

"Ned has made all these great changes because he owns it," she said. "I just love what Ned has done."

Carole and Nick raised three children on St. Anthony Park's Scudder Street and moved to Roseville two years ago, into a

smaller home that's easier to care for. They come back often to the old neighborhood, she said, and stop in at Park Service.

"Ned is such a blessing," she said. "It's stayed a neighborhood place. I'm so pleased."

Wesenberg attributes his success at the location to loyal customers, which he said include many people who work at the U of M, Luther Seminary, HealthPartners, state government offices and other nearby employers, as well as neighborhood residents.

He said the Park Service location, surrounded as it is by dentists' offices, allows people to have work done on their cars while they're having their cavities filled. Or they'll sometimes go out for coffee or do a little

shopping when they drop off the car, he said.

At the BP station, Wesenberg has recently stirred up neighborhood debate by announcing plans to add a Subway sandwich shop to the site. He said when he's at the station, people stop in looking for two things: directions and a sandwich. "That's what they've asked for," he said. (For more on the Subway controversy, see the story on page 1.)

Looking back on the changes along Como over the years, Nick Mayers expressed what some other neighbors may be thinking as a fresh wave of change hits the neighborhood.

"Lotta water over the dam," he pronounced.

Park Hardware from 13

Floren sold out to Clarence Pelant in 1960-61, who owned the business only until 1962-63, when it was purchased by Dick and Oney Meyers, who also bought the building on a contract for deed from the widow McAlpine.

Little Stew McIntosh saw his first television set in the front window of Park Hardware on his way home from school. Years later, in 1972, he came to work for the Meyers. And in 1977, he and his wife, Kathy, with assistance from his parents, bought the business and the building from the Meyers.

Stewart McIntosh's grandparents on both sides lived in St. Anthony Park. He and Kathy have lived on Keston Avenue, not far from Park Hardware, since 1973. Asked how long it used to take to walk to work, McIntosh says, "It took five minutes, unless you ran into somebody that wanted to talk. Then it took 20."

While the McIntoshes still own the building, Dave Kerr bought the hardware business in 1997 and continues to run it today.

This past year has been a difficult one for the business, according to Kerr, and he is

trying to sell it. Business is down 20 percent from the year before.

Kerr says what they earn in April, May and June has to cover the losses from the winter before. And what they earn in September and October has to cover the losses over the summer. He says their business has been hurt by Menard's and Super Target moving into the area.

McIntosh questions that reasoning. He thinks that small neighborhood hardware stores in the extended area forced Knox Lumber and Builder's Square out of business. "Bad corporate management didn't hurt, either," he says.

McIntosh says small stores can offer a level of service and convenience that the big box stores can't. Besides local residents, McIntosh says he had a strong commercial customer base when he owned the store.

Kerr says that a small hardware store needs at least 6,000 square feet to be successful. He has about 4,000 square feet. He says that customers often have to park a block away and carry their purchases to their car, whereas at a big box store they can push a cart to the parking lot. Kerr's average sale is \$10. He estimates Menard's averages \$40

per sale.

Kerr also thinks that customer expectations have changed. "They walk in and expect to find whatever they need in stock," he says. Kerr's suppliers deliver twice a week, but people don't want to wait, he says.

One recent customer pointed to Maggie and Ruger, Kerr's canine mascots at the store, and said, "If you can afford to buy dog food for these two, you can afford to stock rubber bands."

Kerr says he's expected to have not only rubber bands but lumber and riding lawn mowers as well. His favorite response to such complaints is to ask the customer to wait a minute while he goes upstairs to get the item. (It's a one-story building.)

Kerr's lease on the building expires at the end of 2006, so he'll have the remainder of this year to sell the business. He says he wouldn't be surprised to see the building razed to expand parking at the new Park Midway Bank building next door.

But McIntosh says they have no plans to sell. "As long as we own the building," he says, "it will be retail and, we hope, a hardware store."



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The Birdman of Lauderdale

by Clay Christensen

It was still dark at 5:20 in the morning. The light rain had stopped 10 minutes earlier. There were no other cars on the road, so I pulled across the oncoming lane and parked on the left shoulder. I was to spend the next two hours looking and listening for sandhill cranes.

The sandhill crane is an impressive bird on land or in the air. It stands four feet tall, and is mostly gray with a red cap on its forehead, and has a white cheek and a fluff of tail feathers, like a bustle. The red cap is actually a bald spot (no wonder I like them).

The sandhill crane in the accompanying photo has a rusty color on its body, called "staining," caused when the bird preens itself with a muddy beak. Sandhills often feed in swamps and wetlands that have iron compounds in the mud, thus the reddish-brown stains.

In flight, sandhill cranes stretch out their necks and let their legs trail behind, but they don't flap their wings in a steady up-down rhythm. The upstroke is much faster than the downstroke.

This is one of the best ways to discern a sandhill crane in flight from a great blue heron. The heron's flight is more of a steady up-down pattern. And the great blue heron usually flies with its neck pulled back in an "S" crook, not stretched out like the crane.

The Midwest Crane Count began in 1976, sponsored by the International Crane Foundation (ICF), in Baraboo, Wisconsin. Counters throughout the Midwest go out on the same Saturday morning in April and count from 5:30 to 7:30 a.m. Any cranes seen or heard during that time period are reported back to the ICF.

In addition to sandhill cranes, we were to keep watch for evidence of whooping cranes, a bit taller than sandhills, white with black wingtips and a red face.

We had very specific requirements for documenting any whooping crane sightings. The whooping crane is rare and is just coming back from near extinction.

My assigned territory was Poplar Lake County Park, an undeveloped park just north of North Oaks at the northern edge of Ramsey County.

I went to survey the area the week before the count and saw no trails, but I hiked in for a ways on the east side until I had a good view of the lake itself.

Last year's grasses had been compressed by the winter winds and snows, hiding ground that was very uneven, hummocks with water puddles at the base of

each. It wasn't an easy hike but I thought I'd be able to do it on "count Saturday," even in the dark before dawn.

But I hadn't expected the rain. Before I left home on Saturday, I packed my rain pants, but I wasn't eager to hike out through the wet grass and decided first I'd just listen for cranes from the road at the eastern edge of the park. If I heard or saw them from there, maybe I wouldn't even have to hike at all.

After parking on the left shoulder, I refilled my coffee cup, got my clipboard ready and, with binoculars in hand, stepped out into the pre-dawn darkness.

I could hear woodcock calling with a "peent-peent" that reminded me of nighthawks in the summer. I also heard song sparrows, pheasants and turkeys.

And then at 5:35, right after my count period officially began, I heard them: sandhill cranes doing their croaky call in the distance, probably on the other side of Poplar Lake.

I was ecstatic! The rumored presence of sandhill cranes in the park had been confirmed. I noted the time and type of call on my official ICF Crane Count Data Sheet.

There are three types of calls that cranes typically make. First is the contact call, where the adults are just keeping in touch with one another or reassuring the new fledglings that all is well.

Second is the guard call, used to warn away a predator or drive another crane out of the couple's nest area.

Third is the unison call, a duet between two cranes as they strengthen their pair bond in preparation for mating and nesting.

I was pretty sure I was hearing the unison call, an indication that there was a nesting pair in the area. The calls repeated every 15 minutes or so for the entire two-hour count period.

I posted the information on the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union (MOU) Web site that afternoon.

I brought my son, Drew, to the same roadside location on Sunday morning, to see if he could hear the cranes, too. We got there a little after 6, and a few minutes after our arrival, a white car pulled in behind ours.

Out stepped Bob Janssen, Mr. Birding Minnesota, one of the most respected birdwatchers in the state.

I greeted him and introduced Drew. As I was giving him my name, he said he knew me, had seen my posting on the MOU Web site and was surprised to see me back here for a second day.

Wow! Bob Janssen knew my



The sandhill crane is an impressive bird on land or in the air. It stands four feet tall, and is mostly gray with a red cap on its forehead, and has a white cheek and a fluff of tail feathers, like a bustle.

name! My ego began to swell.

We all listened to birds and then we heard the cranes call in the distance. I told Bob I had reported that as the unison call. He said that indeed it was. Another boost to my ego.

I was pointing out woodcock and snipe calls to my son. Bob was confirming them, until I told Drew I had heard another snipe call.

"No," Bob said, "I think that's a toad calling." Then he cupped his hands behind his ears, turned toward the sound, and repeated, "Yup, that's a toad calling."

A toad? I knew that frogs called, but toads? And they sound like snipe? Sudden ego deflation, plus yet another complication to listening to bird calls. Not only do I have to filter out the chatter of chipmunks and red squirrels, now I've got to think about toad calls, too.

It was great to hear cranes a second day in a row, to have Drew hear them and to have a great birder like Bob Janssen confirm that what I had reported was indeed a unison call between a bonded pair of sandhill cranes.

Now to learn to filter out those dang toads!

To learn more about cranes, and hear their calls, go to the ICF Web site at www.savingcranes.org.

The sandhill crane photo is provided courtesy of Linda Krueger. You can see more of her photos at www.tc.umn.edu/~lkrueger.

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During the May meeting we had our officer elections. Here are the results:

Historian: Emma Marshall
President: Bobby Ragoonanan
Vice President: John Weber
Recreation Leader: Viola Holman
Reporter: Kristina Abbas (me)
Secretary: Alex Wolter
Treasurer: Susan Drache

Later in the meeting we had a demonstration on taking care of dogs. We watched as a 4-H member brushed the dog's teeth and fed the dog.

We also talked about our Pie and Ice Cream Social. We are hoping you can come! It will be held Friday, June 2, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Park Midway

Drive-up Bank at Como and Doswell.

This event is sponsored by the Northern Lights 4-H Club. Music is provided by the Community Band. There will be a 4-H information booth at the Pie and Ice Cream Social.

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Edina Realty



New officers of the Northern Lights 4-H Club are (l to r): John Weber, Kristina Abbas, Susan Drache, Alex Wolter, Viola Holman and Emma Marshall. Not pictured is Bobby Ragoonanan.

Seeking enlightenment from 3

The SGI building serves as a focus for 25 regional "districts" or congregations. The poetically named districts, which style themselves by names like Diamond Chalice, Evergreen and Aurora, each count up to 60 members.

The building is the site for study and discussion groups like the Sophia women's group, which Dunlavy describes as "a book club based on Buddhist teachings."

Staffed entirely by volunteers, the SGI headquarters also serves as a resource center for visitors — including the occasional student with a term paper to complete on Buddhism.

What the SGI building is not, however, is a church, synagogue or mosque. In fact, even the concept of a congregation gathered in worship of an external higher power is foreign to the movement.

"We're not praying to God, not to a deity," explains Dunlavy. "We're not asking for something. We're awakening the Buddha nature within us. Each of us is a Buddha potentially."

She cites a familiar metaphor to explain the Buddhist concept of the importance of developing the higher nature within each individual. "Each one of us is one drop of the ocean, with all the elements and potential of that ocean."

What's most important in Soka Gakkai is not the meetings or the study sessions, but the daily chanting that every member practices, either before the altar at SGI headquarters or in the privacy of one's home.

Dunlavy has a small, polished wood shrine set up in her living room. She and her family perform a twice-daily, repetitive chant of a short

segment from the Buddhist holy book called the Lotus Teaching, or "Sutra," as it's known to the faithful.

Rooney explains the significance of the lotus. "The lotus flower grows in mud, but it's a pure, clean flower that represents the greatest potential of every living being. The muddy pond represents our innate negativity, and the flower represents the Buddha nature within us. Once we change the inner self, we can affect the environment around us."

The SGI Center is located at 1381 Eustis St. Volunteers staff the building most days. The group's annual craft and bake sale, which will raise money for the organization's youth work, will be held on the weekend of June 3 and 4, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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No bones about it

by Kristi Curry Rogers

As I write this month's installment of No Bones, I'm gearing up for the first research trip of the summer.

Though our entire crew (me, my geologist husband, Ray, and our 3-year-old fantastic fossil finder, Lucy) will be headed out west for a traditional paleontological field season later this summer, my first research trip is a little more tame.

I'll hop on a plane and head to Ann Arbor, Michigan, to spend several days working with my colleague, Jeff, at the University of Michigan.

We're not headed "out" to dig up dinosaurs, but instead are headed "in" to begin a new project on how one group of dinos are related to each other.

Even though most of us think of paleontologists as always out tramping about, scanning the badlands for fossils, in truth a lot of our work is much less glamorous than that. Jeff and I are getting together to spend three days in libraries, offices and museums.

Our plan is simple. We need to pore over our own notes on dinosaurs from around the globe. We need to compare our observations on different specimens. We need to scour the paleontological literature written by our peers and colleagues in search of new information.

Finally, when our three days of frenzied work are done, we hope to have a brand-new data set that takes into account all the work done on our favorite dinos (the sauropods, or long-necked dinosaurs) since their first discoveries in the late 1800s.

Our new data set is basically a list of characteristics that we can identify on skeletons of the dinos we're interested in. These characteristics might be special bumps or ridges on bones. They may include the number of vertebrae that can be found in the neck, back or tail. They may include the presence or absence of distinctive body armor that some sauropods have.

All these characteristics vary among different groups of

sauropods. Since they vary, they can help us trace the evolutionary history of these dinosaurs.

You might wonder why we would care to study the evolution of animals that don't live on the planet anymore. The really neat thing about the sauropods that Jeff and I will study is that they are found all over the world because they evolved when a massive supercontinent called Pangea was still mostly intact.

As Pangea broke apart millions of years ago, the sauropods living in different places were separated into different populations, and their evolutionary history can tell us something about how and when the continents that we know today (like North America, Africa, and even Madagascar and India) separated from each other.

Who knew that studying bumps and ridges on bones could be so interesting and exciting? Stay tuned for next month, when I'll give you all the "dirt" on the more rugged work we've got planned for the summer.

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Aging Gracefully by Mary Jo Tarasac

Earlier this spring, one of your neighbors, a nice middle-aged guy, noticed he hadn't seen his elderly neighbor for a day or two.

He was somewhat alarmed, and after some debate with himself, he walked over to his neighbor's house, only to find the older man lying on the floor. He had become dizzy after taking some prescribed medications, fallen and been unable to get up by himself.

After helping his friend up and into a comfortable chair, the younger man talked with him a while, made him an omelet and went home.

He called the Block Nurse Program the next day. "What if

my neighbor falls again? What can I do? I don't want to be nosy, but I think he needs some help."

Another of your neighbors, a family this time, looks out their kitchen window each morning to see if their 90-ish neighbor lady is enjoying her morning cup of tea. If she isn't there, they call her on the phone. Sometimes Mom brings over a muffin after seeing the kids off to school and talks to her neighbor, making sure she's OK.

Throughout history, up until the first half of the 20th century, most older adults lived out their twilight years with one relative or another.

As the individual mobility of nuclear families increased in the 1950s and '60s, many older adults entered nursing homes when there was no family nearby to care for them.

Since then, we have begun to realize that most elderly people are happier and healthier living independently, but today's numerous support programs still fall far short of meeting the needs of seniors as they age in place.

According to a Minnesota Planning Commission report, 95 percent of the support elderly people receive to enable them to live at home is still provided by friends and relatives.

From our experience here at the Block Nurse Program, that's how many older people like it. It's more pleasant to think, "My neighbor has come for a visit," than to think, "That social worker who's paid to poke into my life is here."

After helping his neighbor that day, the man called us and we went out to see the older man, letting him know what services are available. Our staff met with him and recommended some services to support him.

The older woman that the next-door neighbors check on also receives services through our program. In fact, most of the people who receive services through the Block Nurse Program also rely on the kind of volunteer support that is one of their neighbors simply being a good neighbor.

Take a few minutes to think about your block. Is there an older adult you could "check on" every few days? Someone whose lawn you could easily mow when you do your own? Someone who would just love it if you stopped by for a cup of tea? Someone who needs a ride to church?

Remember: If you find a situation you can't handle, the Block Nurse Program will be there with help and support.

Many of us bemoan the isolation and self-centeredness that is ubiquitous in our modern society. But in our own lives, we have the opportunity to counteract it every day. What will you do?

The St. Anthony Park Block Nurse Program offers services to older adults and those who care for them. Aging Gracefully is one way we communicate with our community. We welcome ideas and feedback for this column at 642-9052 or sapbnp@bistream.net.

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Readings

Tuesday, June 6, 7 p.m.
Micawber's. Robert Hill ("When All is Said and Done"), Faith Sullivan ("Gardenias").

Wednesday, June 7, 7 p.m.
Micawber's. Mark Seeley ("Minnesota Weather Almanac").

Saturday, June 10, 4 p.m.
Micawber's. Eric Dregni ("Midwest Marvels").

Thursday, June 15, 7 p.m.
Micawber's. Poets Juliet Patterson, Sarah Fox and Paula Cisewski.

Saturday, June 17, 2 p.m.
Micawber's. Jane St. Anthony ("The Summer Sherman Loved Me").

Wednesday, June 21, 7 p.m.
Micawber's. Mary Sharratt ("Vanishing Point").

Monday, June 22, 7 p.m.
Micawber's. Brad Zellar and Quinton Skinner ("Twin Cities Noir").

Groups

Wednesday, June 7, 6:30 p.m.
St. Anthony Park Library.
St. Anthony Park Writers Group.
All welcome.

Monday, June 12, 7 p.m.
Micawber's. Probers' Book Group. "The Bookseller of Kabul" by Asne Seierstad. All welcome.

Wednesday, June 14, 7 p.m.
St. Anthony Park Library Book Club. "The Kite Runner" by Khaled Hosseini. All welcome.

Storytelling

Thursday, June 8, 10:15 a.m.
Coffee Grounds. Storytelling for children, with Pam Schweitzer.

Saturday, June 10, 8 p.m.
Coffee Grounds. Storytelling concert, with Duke Addicks.

Tuesday, June 20, 6:30–7:30 p.m.
Coffee Grounds. Storytelling pajama party, with Pam Schweitzer.

Library Events

Saturday, June 3, 9:30 a.m.–3 p.m. Book sale as part of St. Anthony Park Arts Festival. All items \$1 or less. Shelley Swanson Sateren will sign copies of "Cat on a Hottie's Tin Roof" (Random House, 2003) during the festival. Both hardcover and paperback copies of the book will be for sale at special discounted prices.

Saturday, June 10. First day to register for summer reading program.

Monday, June 12, 7 p.m. Library Association meeting.

Wednesday, June 21, 10:30 a.m., 2 p.m. Wendy's Wiggle, Jiggle and Jam music.

Wednesday, June 28, 10:30 a.m., 2 p.m. The Mad Scientist.

The library will host a summer journaling workshop for girls ages 9–14. The workshop will be led by Shelley Swanson Sateren, children's and young adult author. It meets on five Tuesdays from 11 a.m. to noon: June 27, July 11 and 25, August 8 and 22. The workshop is free, but reservations are appreciated. Call 642-0411.

Children and teenagers are invited to join the library's summer reading program, "Catch the Beat at your Library." Every participant will receive a free book after reading, or being read, 10 books. The program includes free programs every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. Musicians, scientists, zookeepers, naturalists, jugglers, magicians and storytellers will entertain young people and those young at heart.

AMERICAN LIFE IN POETRY

By Ted Kooser, U.S. Poet Laureate

Midwestern poet Richard Newman traces the imaginary life of coins as a connection between people. The coins — seemingly of little value — become a ceremonial and communal currency.

Coins

My change: a nickel caked with finger grime;
two nicked quarters not long for this life, worth
more for keeping dead eyes shut than bus fare;
a dime, shining in sunshine like a new dime;
grubby pennies, one stamped the year of my birth,
no brighter than I from 40 years of wear.

What purses, piggy banks, and window sills
have these coins known, their presidential heads
pinched into what beggar's chalky palm —
they circulate like tarnished red blood cells,
all of us exchanging the merest film
of our lives, and the lives of those long dead.

And now my turn in the convenience store,
I hand over my fist of change, still warm,
to the bored, lip-pierced check-out girl, once more
to be spun down cigarette machines, hurled
in fountains, flipped for luck — these dirty charms
chiming in the dark pockets of the world.

Reprinted from "Borrowed Towns," World Press, 2005, by permission of the author. First printed in "Crab Orchard Review," Volume 10, No. 1, 2005. Copyright (c) 2005 by Richard Newman.

This weekly column is supported by The Poetry Foundation, The Library of Congress, and the Department of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. This column does not accept unsolicited poetry.

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David Olsen, singer/songwriter
 June 3, 8pm

Open mic with Bill Hammond
 June 4, 6pm

Real Book Jazz
 June 5, 7:45pm

Bill Cagley's Roots Music Showcase
 June 8, 7pm

Concert by Bill Cagley
 June 9, 8pm

Road To Memphis Blues Competition
 June 11, 2pm

Real Book Jazz
 June 12, 7:45pm

Kelly Brightwell, singer/songwriter
 June 16, 8pm

Egmen, classics and standards
 June 17, 8pm

Open mic with Bill Hammond
 June 18, 6pm

Real Book Jazz
 June 19, 7:45pm

Bill Cagley's Roots Music Showcase
 June 22, 7pm

Deb Carlson & Friends, bluegrass
 June 23, 8pm

Carol Jean and the Blue Gills
 Classics, standards and originals
 June 24, 8pm

Real Book Jazz
 June 26, 7:45pm

Kevin Taylor with Eric Addington
 June 30, 8pm

Ginkgo Coffeehouse
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Bluegrass and Oldtime Jam Session
 June 28, 7pm

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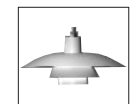
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JUNE Calendar

1 Thursday

- Track and Field Day at St. Anthony Park Elementary School, 10 a.m.
- KARATE: Soo Bahk Do at Langford Park Rec Center, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Cost: \$70, ages 6 to adult.
- 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 Hi-Rise, 825 Seal St. 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.

2 Friday

- Track and Field Day at St. Anthony Park Elementary School, 1 p.m.
- 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.

3 Saturday

- Craft and Bake Sale, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the SGI-USA Buddhist Center, 1381 Eustis St.
- Free in-store wine sampling at The Little Wine Shoppe, 2236 Carter Ave. Stop by anytime between 2 and 5 p.m. during the Arts Festival. Must be 21 years of age or older to attend. All featured wines are 10% off during the tasting. www.thelittlewineshoppe.com
- Murray Band performs at the St. Anthony Park Art Fair at 10 a.m. on the corner of Como and Carter.
- St. Anthony Park Library book sale, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. All items \$1 or less.
- Nocturnal Bowling (612-625-5246), 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Gopher Spot, St. Paul Student Center, 2017 Buford Ave, St. Paul Campus. Every Saturday.

- Yinghua Academy open house, 1355 Pierce Butler, 4-5 p.m.

4 Sunday

- Craft and Bake Sale, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the SGI-USA Buddhist Center, 1381 Eustis St.
- Spotlight Awards Ceremony, Pantages Theatre, 7 p.m. Tickets and information: www.HennepinTheatreDistrict.org.

5 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.
- Como Park recycling. Every Monday.

6 Tuesday

- The St. Paul Farmer's Market satellite location in the Twin City Co-ops Federal Credit Union parking lot (2025 Larpenteur Ave. W. in Falcon Heights) is open every Tuesday morning from 7:30 a.m. to noon through October.
- Como Wood Carvers group, every Tuesday in June at 7 p.m. at Coffee Grounds, 1579 Hamline Ave.
- Tot Time (for 5-year-olds and younger), Langford Park Rec Center (298-5765), 10 a.m. to noon. Every Tuesday.

- Toastmasters (645-6675), training in effective speaking, Hewlett Packard, Broadway & 280, 7:35-8:35 a.m. Every Tuesday.

- Chair Exercise Classes. Seal Hi-Rise, 825 Seal St. 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 Band rehearsal (642-1559), Como Senior High band room, 7:15 p.m.

7 Wednesday

- Bead Ladies group, every Wednesday in June at 10 a.m. at Coffee Grounds, 1579 Hamline Ave.
- 7th grade Awards assembly, 12:30 p.m., Murray auditorium.

- 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 noon.

- Free blood pressure clinic and health resources by the St. Anthony Park Block Nurse Program, Seal Hi-Rise (825 Seal St.), 1-2 p.m.

- St. Anthony Park recycling. Every Wednesday.

8 Thursday

- Storytelling for Children with Pam Schweitzer, 10:15 a.m. at Coffee Grounds, 1579 Hamline Ave.

- Pilates at Langford Park Rec Center, 11 a.m. to noon (intermediate) and 12:15-1:15 p.m. (beginners). \$70 or \$68 for seniors. Adults only.

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

9 Friday

- Falcon Heights recycling.

10 Saturday

- "Bear Stories" storytelling concert with host Duke Addicks, 8 p.m., \$5 donation at Coffee Grounds, 1579 Hamline Ave.

12 Monday

- 8th grade Awards Assembly, 7 p.m., Murray auditorium.

- St. Anthony Park Library Association meeting, 7 p.m. New members welcome.

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

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

- Join the Falconers for 500 and cribbage at 1 p.m. at Falcon Heights City Hall.

- Lauderdale recycling.

13 Tuesday

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

14 Wednesday

- Last day of school for St. Paul School District.

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

17 Saturday

- Yinghua Academy informational meeting, Roseville Library (2180 Hamline Ave. N.), 3-4:30 p.m.

19 Monday

- Summer Lunch Program starts today at the Langford Park Rec Center. 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Free, ages 18 & under (no adults can eat).

- Urban Tennis Program begins at Langford Park Rec Center and ends July 28. For more info, stop by Langford and pick up a flyer.

- Lauderdale recycling.

20 Tuesday

- District 10 board meeting. Call 644-3889 for details.

21 Wednesday

- Free in-store wine sampling at The Little Wine Shoppe, 2236 Carter Ave. Stop by anytime between 4:30 and 7:30 p.m. Must be 21 years of age or older to attend. All featured wines are 10% off during the tasting.

- Langford Park Play Area grand opening, 5:30-7 p.m. Free. Activities include face painting, ice cream social, entertainment, balloons.

- Water Days begin at Langford Park Rec Center from 1-3 p.m. for ages 9-13. 6 sessions, free.

- 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 11-11:45 a.m.

- Free blood pressure clinic and health resources by the St. Anthony Park Block Nurse Program, Seal Hi-Rise (825 Seal St.), 1-2 p.m.

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

23 Friday

- Falcon Heights recycling.

24 Saturday

- Kids' Garage Sale at Langford Park Rec Center, 1-3 p.m. \$5 per table. Kids can rent a table and sell their toys, clothes, games, etc.

26 Monday

- Basketball Camp, today through June 30 at Langford Park Rec Center. 9:30-11:30 a.m. (ages 8-10 boys & girls) & 12:30-2:30 p.m. (ages 11-14 boys & girls).

- Join the Falconers for 500 and cribbage at 1 p.m. at Falcon Heights City Hall.

- Lauderdale recycling.

27 Tuesday

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

- Como Lake Water Festival, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Schillman Fountain, across from lakeside Pavilion.

28 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.

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

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Lois M. Edborg

Lois M. Edborg, age 79, a lifelong resident of St. Anthony Park, died in her home on May 1, 2006, of an apparent heart attack. She was very active up until the time of her death.

Lois was born November 14, 1926, to Lawrence and Jessie Giefer. She attended Gutersen Elementary School and graduated from Murray High School in 1944. She graduated from the University of Minnesota with an associate of arts degree. She married Ralph "Bud" Edborg in 1950.

After graduation, Lois worked at the University of Minnesota bookstore until her first daughter, Karen, was born in 1955. A second daughter, Nancy, was born in 1957.

As a stay-at-home mother, she tested home recipes for General Mills test kitchens. Lois started working at Twin City Linnea Home as a dining room aide and eventually returned to school to earn a degree as a certified dietary assistant. Remaining at Linnea Home until her retirement in 1991, she advanced to dietary supervisor.

Lois was a dedicated volunteer at St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church and during earlier years as a Girl Scout leader. She kept active in Homemakers Club, long-blade skating, Antique Club, gardening and as an election judge. She always found time to spend with her grandchildren in many activities as well.

Lois was preceded in death by her husband, and grandson, Jesse Tjaden. She is survived by daughters, Karen (Bill) Tjaden and Nancy (Bill) Ross; one grandson; three granddaughters; two great-granddaughters; a brother, Sidney Giefer; and dear friend Wallie Manfredini.

Her funeral was May 4 at her church, with interment at Roselawn Cemetery.

Florida Jacobson

Florida I. Jacobson, age 85, died May 6, 2006. She retired from Dayton's in Minneapolis and was active at Como Park Lutheran Church. She and her husband, Stan, enjoyed golfing, traveling, their family, friends and playing bridge. She was a member of

Midland Hills Country Club.

Florida lived at Eagle Crest Commons prior to moving to Cambridge last fall. She will be greatly missed by her loving family and friends.

Florida was preceded in death by Stanley, four brothers and three sisters. She is survived by step-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Her funeral was held at her church on May 12, with interment at Sunset Memorial Park.

Catherine Kohn

Catherine More Wetherby Kohn died in Columbus, Ohio, on April 27, 2006, at the age of 91, after a long illness.

Mrs. Kohn was born on September 13, 1914, in Blue Earth, Minnesota, and grew up in St. Paul, where she attended high school and one year of college. The Weatherby family was an early St. Anthony Park family, living on Brewster.

Catherine was married in May of 1943 to Nathan Kohn Jr. In the early 1940s, Nathan was the youth director at St. Anthony Park Congregational Church (now UCC). St. Anthony Park resident LaVonne Souther has vivid memories of Catherine as a person who cared deeply about conservation of land and water, and as an avid horseback rider.

The Kohns moved to St. Louis, where they lived for 35 years. Catherine worked as an assistant accountant at the Community School there after raising her family.

In the early 1980s, Mrs. Kohn returned to St. Paul to care for her aging mother. She moved to Columbus in 2000.

Mrs. Kohn had an abiding interest in nature, especially gardens and birds, and spent a great deal of time in rural areas, particularly in Crawford County near Cuba, Missouri. Her family attests that she loved a quiet walk in the woods.

In addition to her daughter, Catherine Kohn of Columbus, Ohio, and her son, Douglas Kohn of Needham, Massachusetts, survivors include two grandchildren, three brothers and other relatives.

A memorial service was held May 16 at St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ. A second memorial service was held May 27 in Webster Groves, Missouri. Mrs. Kohn's ashes will be buried in the churchyard of the First Congregational Church of Webster Groves, where her memorial will be placed with that of her late husband.

Marjorie O. Larson

Marjorie O. Larson (nee Olson)

died on April 6, 2006, at the age of 83. She was a resident of 1666 Coffman in Falcon Heights and a lifelong member of St. Michaels Lutheran Church.

"Grandma Marj" worked as an R.N. at the University of Minnesota and as a volunteer at the Augustana Home. She provided postnatal counseling to many young parents. She volunteered extensively both at home and abroad. She was loved by many and will be greatly missed.

She was preceded in death by her daughter, Gwen Bowers, and brother, Vincent Peterson. She is survived by her beloved husband of 21 years, Curtis; children, Jack (Cindy) Woodcock, Edith (Fred) Meserve, Carla (Cathy Guetzlaf) Olson, Julie (Lance) Eberwine, Mark (Mary Kennedy) Larson, Reed (Sharon Irish) Larson, and Jean Larson; grandchildren, Matt (Jen) McAdams, Stephanie McAdams, Mara and Ben Woodcock, Gabe, Britta, and Laura Suppes, Bridget (Andrew Hoel) Larson, Miriam and Renner Larson, Sarah and Luke Eberwine; and four great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held at St. Michael's Lutheran Church, with interment at Lakewood Cemetery.

Mauritz Linder

Mauritz A. Linder, age 90, died May 7, 2006. He was retired from the U of M Agronomy Department.

He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Hazel; four children; ten grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren and other relatives.

His service was May 11 at Christ Lutheran Church, Lake Elmo, with interment at Christ Lutheran Cemetery.

Marian Miller

Marian C. Miller, age 93, of Falcon Heights, died May 11, 2006. She was born March 11, 1913, in Kasota, Minnesota, to Charles and Emma Swenson. On Sept. 6, 1936, Marian married Fred Miller. He died in 1974.

Also preceding her in death were brothers, Cliff, Dick and Don; sister, Ruby; son, John in 1996; and special friend, Frank Hennessey.

Survivors include son and daughter-in-law, Jim and Roz Miller of Littleton, Colorado; daughter-in-law, Kathy Miller of Burnsville; two granddaughters; and four great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held May 20 at Roseville Memorial Chapel, with interment Fort Snelling National Cemetery.

C L A S S I F I E D S

Classified deadline:
June 16, 6 p.m.
Next issue: June 28

- Type or write down your ad, and which section your ad should appear in. Usually we put the first few words in capital letters.
- Count the words. A word is numbers or letters with a space on each side. A phone number with area code is one word.
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Olaf Storaasli

Olaf K. Storaasli, professor emeritus of New Testament at Luther Seminary, died May 16, 2006, at the age of 90.

He taught at Luther Seminary from 1958 to 1986 as a scholar of Johannine and Pauline literature.

He was also an ardent supporter of global mission efforts. He and his wife, Lila, traveled extensively, hosted foreign exchange students, and led faculty and students through the Middle East.

After retirement, he served as a resource for international students, helping them through the difficult task of writing a thesis in a language not their own.

Emphasizing the importance of mission was always a part of Storaasli's work. "Anyone studying New Testament is introduced to the spread of the church through the book of Acts. You can't read the Bible without thinking about mission," he said in a 2001 interview.

Storaasli was one of the founders of the Hospitality Center for the Chinese on the St. Paul campus of the U of M, and both he and Lila actively supported the Faith Chinese Fellowship, which holds services in their home congregation, St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church.

An ordained Lutheran minister, Storaasli served congregations in Philadelphia and Saskatoon, Canada. He was the author of several books.

Dr. Storaasli is survived by Lila, his wife of 63 years; four children, Carolyn (Jim) Nestingen, Elizabeth Storaasli (Mark Knutson), Faith Hutin, and Olaf (Barbara) Storaasli; 10 grandchildren; and two great-granddaughters.

A memorial service was held May 22 at St. Anthony Park Lutheran, with interment at Sunset Memorial Cemetery.

Margaret Thompson

Margaret Thompson died May 7, 2006, at the age of 90. She was active in bazaar and quilting activities at Como Park Lutheran Church and made beautiful greeting cards.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Jim, and is survived by daughters, Nancy (Gerald) McIntyre and Mary Austin; six grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and brother, Elmer Birkeland.

Her funeral service was held May 13 at Como Park Lutheran, with interment at Lakeview Cemetery, Nowthen.

There is no charge for Bugle obituaries. Please alert the Bugle about the deaths of current or former residents of the area. Send more complete information if available. Obituaries are compiled by Mary Mergenthal, 644-1650, mary.mergenthal@comcast.net.

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Call the church office before noon on Friday for a ride.

Vacation Bible School: Monday, June 19 - Thursday, June 22

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Sunday, June 4, 10:00 a.m. - Holy Communion/Pentecost

Sunday, June 18, 9:30 a.m. - Summer Worship Time Begins

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11:00 a.m. Fellowship & Refreshments

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