Residents discuss Raymond Avenue traffic calming

Task force presents conceptual designs

by Dave Healy

An August 17 meeting drew about 45 people to the South St. Anthony Rec Center to hear the latest ideas for traffic calming on Raymond Avenue.

A task force made up of District 12 Community Council members, staff, neighbors and landscape architects presented conceptual designs for three Raymond Avenue intersections: Gordon, Hampden and University avenues. Landscape architects Ted Lee and Stephen Mastey showed Raymond Avenue to 5

Task force was created to follow up on a 2004 forum at which residents brainstormed traffic-calming ideas. The goal is to present a proposal to the city by February for a Capital Improvement Budget project on Raymond between Como and University avenues. Landscape architects Ted Lee and Stephen Mastey showed Raymond Avenue to 5

To brighten the corner of their exercise room, residents of 1666 Coffman in Falcon Heights painted a mural. Marsha Sundquist, chair of the Exercise Room Committee, invited Liz Gaal to head up the project. Gaal designed the mural and enlisted other residents to help paint it. About 40 people contributed to the mural, some filling in Gaal’s sketches, others coming up with their own designs.

Residents even drafted some of the building’s employees to help paint. The acrylic mural was started in May and completed in August.

Even chamber musicians have to improvise

by Natalie Zett

How do you hold a chamber music concert in the dark?

Julie Himmelstrup, founder and artistic director of Music in the Park Series, had to figure that out a couple of years ago during a May 2004 concert, their 25th anniversary season’s grand finale, featuring members of the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra and the Minnesota Orchestra. Topping off the occasion was the world premiere of a piece by local composer Carol Barnett.

"There was a horrible storm that afternoon," said Himmelstrup, "and a straight-line wind went through, taking out the power on half of the street." Unfortunately, it was the half where the concert took place, at St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ.

The plucky and resourceful Himmelstrup, with help from the audience and orchestra members, tried several solutions: candles (ineffective and something of a fire hazard), running an extension cord from the church to the Himmelstrup homestead across the street (blowing out their circuits in the process), and finally flashlights, which provided enough light for the musicians.

"It was pitch black," said Himmelstrup, "but it was gorgeous. It was definitely one of the most dramatic premieres we've ever had."

Afterward, several audience members complimented Himmelstrup. "One woman said that the evening was unforgettable, from the concert to the way people — the musicians and the audience — came together to make it work."

Himmelstrup noted another interesting thing about the concert: "(Mikhail) Baryshnikov was in the audience that evening, but because it was so dark, no one recognized him and he was able to leave unnoticed."

The event concluded with a reception by candlelight at nearby St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church, also a power outage casualty.

Foundation’s annual meeting to highlight retail community

by Dave Healy

Promoting locally owned, independent businesses will be the focus of the St. Anthony Park Community Foundation’s annual meeting on September 26 at St. Anthony Park Elementary School.

This will be the second meeting following a retail survey conducted by the foundation in April. On May 16, survey results were presented to local business owners.

At the September 26 annual meeting, the public is invited to hear a presentation by Tim Dykstal, an expert on neighborhood loyalty campaigns and executive director of MetroBA, a nonprofit membership organization supporting independent businesses in the Twin Cities area.

Following the presentation, group discussions will be held to allow neighborhood residents and business owners to help shape a campaign to strengthen the retail community in north and south St. Anthony Park.

The meeting will be held September 26 at 7 p.m. in the multipurpose room of St. Anthony Park Elementary, 2180 Knapp St.

St. Anthony Park resident Christy Myers’ photography will be exhibited at the Undercroft Gallery from September 17 to October 12. The exhibit, “Through My Eyes,” is a mix of images from her portrait work and travels, particularly in Mexico. An opening reception takes place September 17 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Undercroft Gallery, 2136 Carter Ave.
CITY FILES

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By a 3-2 vote, the City Council voted to prohibit all drive-through uses in B1 and B2 (business) zones. Drive-throughs will be permitted for banks only as a conditional use subject to specific conditions.

Lauderdale

Joseph Kennedy has been added to Lauderdale’s Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee. The Comprehensive Plan Task Force will develop a master plan for parks in Lauderdale.

St. Anthony Park

Neighborhood Cleanup Day for Districts 10 and 12 is September 23 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Residents should receive a green voucher in the mail, which is necessary to bring a load to the drop-off site at the State Fairgrounds Camel Lot.

The city of St. Paul is preparing to do a transportation study for the northwest quadrant, which includes St. Anthony Park. The District 12 Council passed a resolution requesting that the city establish a community task force to facilitate community input for the study.

The Community Council passed a resolution requesting that a council representative be included at any meetings St. Paul has with other jurisdictions regarding an extension of Pierce Butler, Transfer Road or other new transportation routes through District 12.

The council passed a resolution recommending approval of a conditional use permit for the BP station at Raymond and Como to enable added convenience store space. The council also approved plans for plantings on the interior lot line and a visual screen along the street frontage, which can also be plantings.

District 12 supports a recent proposal by University United that St. Paul establish an Interim Transit-Oriented Zoning Overlay District along University Avenue. This would be a temporary system of zoning and regulation with two purposes: (1) To encourage an appropriate mixture and density of land use development along University Avenue that maximizes the public benefit of the current investment in bus service and the proposed investment in light rail. (2) To decrease auto dependency and mitigate the effects of congestion and pollution along University.

The proposed area would extend one block north and south of the University Avenue corridor, except between Snelling and Lexington Parkway, at the intersection of St. Paul Avenue and Como Avenue. The council has asked the city of St. Paul to appoint two representatives to serve on the Como Avenue Small Area Plan Steering Committee. Goals of the planning effort are to:

• Maintain and strengthen small neighborhood commercial assets, especially basic services that people can walk to.
• Consider new housing types to meet the needs of a variety of ages and income levels.
• Provide an appropriate mix of housing options.
• Identify new businesses needed and create strategies to attract them to the community.
• Seek a balance of convenience and destination stores.
• Study the development of other similar business districts and develop applicable strategies for Como Avenue.

Members are being sought to serve on a committee that will begin gathering community input this fall. Anyone interested in serving on the committee may contact Amy Sparks at 649-5992 or amy@scctc.org.

St. Paul

The Mayor’s Central Corridor Task Force will hold a Community Vision Open House on September 16 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the new Rondo Library, located at the corner of Dale and University.

The event will include information about planning and development related to the proposed Central Corridor LRT project. — Susan Connor

Keith’s

Roseville

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The District Council is seeking Planning Commission support at its upcoming vote on a small area plan for Como Avenue. The council has asked the city of St. Paul to appoint two representatives to serve on the Como Avenue Small Area Plan Steering Committee. Goals of the planning effort are to:

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CEEREC
Fine Arts Series features surprises and favorites

by Michelle Christianson

St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church has once again put together a Fine Arts Series including visual and musical offerings for all tastes and ages.

The series is free and open to the public, and friends and neighbors in the greater community are encouraged to attend performances and browse the artwork any time the church is open.

The opening offering will be a display of giclees (high-resolution reproductions) from the beautifully illuminated St. John's Bible. The show will run from September 3 to October 8.

From October 22 to November 19, photographs of the St. Croix River Valley by Jerry Wiese will be exhibited, with an opportunity to meet the artist before the Encore Wind Ensemble performance on October 29.

This 45-member wind orchestra will present a children's program that includes older works like "Stars in a velvety sky," by Herbert Clark, and more recent pieces, such as "Pirates of the Caribbean — A Symphonic Portrait."

On November 5, the Prevailing Winds Quintet will perform in a joint recital with the Minnesota Accordion Orchestra, presenting works by Milhaud and Berl with as well as some of the quintet-accordion repertoire.

Brightly colored canvases expressing themes of spirituality and human relationships (especially those of community, hope, and love) will adorn the building from December 3 to January 7, with an opportunity to meet the artist, DeAnne L. Parks, Sunday morning December 3.

On January 14, the Chapel Choir and Exultate Singers will present Epiphany Vespers, and January 20 will bring back the St. Paul Vocal Forum for "A Funny Thing Happened at the Forum: A Forum on Humor and Health," including works by P.D.Q. Bach, Paul Sjohand and others that illustrate how laughter is good for you.

February brings two offerings. The a cappella vocal group Virgin Ground will perform "Songs in Mid-Winter" (including works by Hildegard Von Bingen and an original composition by Virgin Ground member Linda Kachelmeier) on February 4, and African artist Koffe Wbaramadi will exhibit his Bible-inspired oil paintings using images, color and shapes from his native Chad. That show will run from February 21 to April 8, with an opportunity to meet the artist before the February 21 Ash Wednesday service.

Those who packed the previous performances of the Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra will be glad to hear it will be back — with guest soloist Adam Kuenzel from the Minnesota Orchestra — on March 25. "Classical Genius and Contemporary Dreamscape" will include Beethoven’s Overture to Coriolanus, Op. 62 and his Symphony No. 6 in F Major, John Tavazzia’s "Dreamcatcher for Flute and Strings," and Mozart’s Concerto No. 2 for Flute and Orchestra in D Major, K. 314.

On April 15 the Lakewood Temple Salvation Army Band, a traditional British brass band established in 1891, along with tenor Scott Evenson, will play transcriptions and arrangements for brass band of religious, contemporary gospel and classical works.

The spring art show will feature paintings by Robyn Sand Anderson, who will be available to visit with viewers between worship services Sunday, April 15, at 9:45 a.m. Also in April, the St. Paul Vocal Forum will present "Immigration: A Choral Forum on the Movement of People," which addresses immigration, exile and the forced immigration of slavery through music by and about immigrants. This program will be on April 28.

The final program of the year, May 20, will feature the St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church Children’s Choir in an afternoon of music featuring five youth choirs, journeying through the children’s liturgical year.

A book for your average St. Paul lover

On Wednesday September 20th at 7 p.m. Paul Clifford Larson will join us to talk about "St. Paul’s Architecture," a new book he co-edited. The book "portrays the city’s distinct history and character... and showcases over 2/3 of its surviving buildings. A great book for history buffs, art and design gurus and just your average St. Paul lover."
It's the other guys.

People speeding on neighborhood streets don't live around here. It's outsiders who run red lights and roll through stop signs and take curves too fast. We local residents are decent, law-abiding folks. We always observe posted limits and consistently adjust our speed downward if conditions dictate.

We always plug meters and never park more than 15 minutes between signs.

We always wait for pedestrians to clear the crosswalk before starting through the intersection.

We never tailgate someone we think is driving too slow.

We never curse the bicyclist we think is intruding on our lane.

We are models of propriety, caution and politeness. Why can't everyone else be like us?

One can denounce outsiders for all sorts of social ills, but drivers are an especially convenient target. There's nothing like traffic to bring out the hypocrisies in us.

Not only do we want to believe that it's other drivers who cause all the problems, but we sometimes talk as if we have a proprietary right to the roads in our own neighborhood. Why do other people have to drive down my block to get somewhere? Can't they find another route?

Driving is the source of many paradoxes, but none more nettling than this: We want to live somewhere with easy automobile access to wherever we might choose to go, but we don't want other people clogging those conveniently located thoroughfares.

We're lured by the open road but, increasingly, no roads we actually want to drive on are open. The car commercials peddle an ever-more improbable fantasy: the lone vehicle speeding down an unoccupied highway, its driver unencumbered by competing motorists.

In the real world, the time we spend idling in traffic increases every year, with accompanying increases in blood pressure and road rage. The Texas Transportation Institute reported that in 2001 the average driver spent 51 hours in traffic — four hours more than five years previously. Just think what you could have done with those 51 hours.

The solution? We can build more roads, of course, but the trick is to keep other motorists from using them. That's the maddening thing about access. It's convenient for you, it's convenient for other people too. So we end up with congestion that makes roads inaccessible. One is reminded of Yogi Berra's observation about a popular bar: "The place is so crowded that nobody goes there anymore."

Of course there's always mass transit. But that works better for other people, those who live or work closer to a bus or LRT line. Just think though, if more of those people would use mass transit, there'd be more room on the road for us drivers.

Cars — can't live with them, can't live without them. And another thing we can't seem to live without is inconsistency. We agree there's too much traffic, but we don't want new roads built through our neighborhood. We think more money should be spent improving the highway system, but we don't want the gas tax raised. We wish they'd make cars with better gas mileage, but we don't like driving smaller, lighter vehicles. We decry the blight of parking lots, but we complain if we have to walk more than 50 feet to our car. We worry about the effects of global warming, but we keep spewing exhaust.

It's hard to find a metro-area elected official who's not gung-ho about LRT, but one wonders how many of them actually ride light rail after the ribbon-cutting ceremonies. It's fashionable to be in favor of bike lanes — even if you haven't darted off the old 10-speed in years. It's nice to be able to walk to the store, but why is it rarely convenient to do so?

We are enslaved to automobiles while refusing to acknowledge our complicity in that enslavement. We reap a vehicular whirlwind while conveniently forgetting having sown the wind. We see the more in the other guy's windshield while studiously ignoring the beam in our own.

We have met the enemy, and he is us.

COMMENTARY

by Sen. Ellen Anderson

Some St. Anthony Park neighbors have expressed concerns about plans for extending Pierce Butler. I want to share what I know to allay those fears. Neither the city nor the state legislature has plans to extend Pierce Butler to the west through St. Anthony Park.

Years ago, I was involved with helping plan what is now the Great Northern Corridor Business Park (south of Front and north of Minnehaha). Two industrial sites, including the Maxson Steel site, were polluted and blighted for many years. Now there are good jobs on the site, and improvements to the south portion are underway.

I worked to obtain state dollars to clean up the brownfields and participated in the planning. We had a University of Minnesota team that worked with neighborhood residents to revitalize the area. Part of their vision related to Pierce Butler Route.

Pierce Butler East curves around the West Minnehaha Rec Center and comes to an awkward end at Minnehaha near Dale. The neighborhood plan straightens out Pierce Butler, aligns it next to the tracks, sends it under Dale and continues it east to Pennsylvania Avenue, the Phalen Corridor and 35E. This would make it more useable as a regional transportation route and take truck traffic off Minnehaha, which is a residential street. This is the Pierce Butler East plan.

At some point during these neighborhood discussions, there was talk of extending Pierce Butler to the west to connect with I-94 or 280, but it was just talk. Such an idea goes way beyond the scope of the small area plan for the North End/Frogpond neighborhoods.

Under Mayor Kelly the city decided to pursue the Pierce Butler East plan and seek state bonding dollars in the 2006 legislative session for the Minnehaha/Dale part of the extension.

This would have been necessary for the proposed Knoc center — a private donation of millions of dollars for a state-of-the-art recreation center — which would have been a huge asset to Frogpond.

Another city request was for a comprehensive study of the west end of St. Paul — Marshall to Pierce Butler and Snelling to the city border — to determine transportation needs, improve economic development around University, and address changes in traffic patterns during and after light rail construction. We didn't get this money, but Public Works is able to start the study.

Because St. Anthony Park and North End, I listened to concerns from both. Sen. Sandy Pappas, who now represents the Great Northern Corridor area, Rep. Alice Hausman and I talked this over when the city brought the bonding request to us. We agreed it didn't make sense to go forward until the transportation study was done and in the face of any neighborhood opposition.

There is strong support in Frogpond and its neighbors for the Pierce Butler East plan. It's in several comprehensive plans and will link to jobs and affordable housing.

I don't believe the Pierce Butler East plan would negatively impact St. Anthony Park.

However, I understand that St. Anthony Park residents are concerned it would lead to a westward extension. The evidence of a westward plan was at a district 12 meeting last fall, which I attended. Mayor Kelly's public works person showed the city's map with a tentative line drawn through the community garden in south St. Anthony Park — clearly unacceptable.

I chided with Mayor Coleman's administration and they state clearly that no Pierce Butler extension exists. Research is being done on the future transportation needs of the area. The plans on the east end are totally independent of the west end.

We need to plan for a neighborhood-based transportation system that will support future population growth in a sustainable manner. St. Anthony Park residents are leaders in this goal. As your state senator, I am committed to citizen participation in this process.

Enhancing neighborhood livability has always been a high priority for me. That's why I've worked hard for sound walls along Highway 280, for lower property taxes, better public school funding, reducing coal plant emissions, zoning gun shops out of residential neighborhoods, and public transit to reduce our automobile and fossil fuel dependence.

I look forward to continuing this dialogue and welcome your point of view.

Sen. Ellen Anderson has represented District 66 since 1992. She can be reached at ellen@mnstate.ren 296-5537.

CONTRIBUTORS

Howard & Nancy Dunlay
Adam Lerner and the Lerner Foundation
Marine Sather

Park Bugle Office
2190 Como Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55108
651-646-5369
Fax: 651-646-0159

Next Deadline
Display ads: September 13
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Editor
Dave Healy
651-646-5369
dave@parkbugle.org

Obituaries Editor
Mary Mengenthal
651-644-1500
mary.mengenthal@comcast.net

Aces and School News Editor
Antoine Young
antoyal@hotmail.com

Calendar Editor
Raymond Yates
parkbugle@yahoo.com

Art Director
Stephen D. Parker

Subscriptions and Delivery
Raymond Yates
651-646-5369 ext. 3

Display Advertising
651-646-5369
Don Schulz (ext. 1)
Raymond Yates (ext. 2)

Classified Advertising
Raymond Yates
651-646-5369 ext. 2

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

Opinions expressed in the Bugle by the editor, writers and contributors do not necessarily represent the opinions of the board of directors, Park Press, Inc. Copyright 2006; Park Press Inc. All rights reserved.

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drawings of the three targeted intersections. Plans include center boulevards and crosswalks distinguished by different paving surfaces. Options for stop signs, bump-outs and one-sided parking were presented.

Any changes to Raymond proposed by the Community Council would have to work with several constraints, said Nina Axelson, District 12 community organizer. The width of the street is not likely to change, and the city will begin striping the road for bike lanes next year, so the neighborhood’s plans must take that into account.

Ken Haider, a traffic engineer for Ramsey County, noted that Raymond is a county road, so, for example, prohibiting truck traffic on the avenue is not an option. Haider also said that traffic is increasing 2 percent a year across the county, and he commended the neighborhood for thinking ahead.

How far ahead to plan was one point of discussion during the meeting. A successful CIB proposal could take up to five years to implement, Axelson said. Some smaller measures, such as signage, could be put in place much sooner.

After the task force presentation, people at the meeting divided into three groups to discuss the specific intersections included in the conceptual designs. During a large-group discussion following those breakout groups, there was consensus that narrowing the roadway at intersections is a good idea, and that creating a center boulevard along Raymond from Como to University would ease pedestrian crossings along the length of the avenue. People also expressed consensus that changes should not result in loss of parking on Raymond.

The task force continues to accept suggestions from residents. Plans for the three targeted intersections may be viewed at the council office (890 Cromwell Ave.) or on their Web site www.sapcc.org. After processing neighborhood input, the council will hold another community forum in November, prior to submitting a proposal to the city.

The Como Park Zoo recently celebrated the 50th anniversary of its Sparky the Seal shows. St. Paul Mayor Chris Coleman was on hand for the festivities.

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St. Anthony Park Neighbors for Peace

Planning meeting (all are welcome): Thursday, September 7, 7 p.m. 1583 Grandview St., 651-646-8122

www.ParkPeacc.org

On August 1, in connection with National Night Out, St. Anthony Park neighbors on Raymond Avenue between Knapp and Commonwealth celebrated a double block party. Defying rain, over 60 people gathered for food and fellowship. The evening also included visits by the St. Paul Police and Fire departments.

Left: Jim Beatle and Marge Grahn-Bowman were undeterred by the rain.

Below: Musical entertainment was provided by Cutty Wren — Nick Jordan and Robin Fox. Photos by Claire Steyaert.

A VOICE FOR YOU!

ELLEN ANDERSON
State Senator District 66
St. Paul and Falcon Heights

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Senator Ellen Anderson contacts  anderson4senate@msn.com  www.ellenanderson.org

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Fine Arts Series from 3

All musical events are at 4 p.m.

There’s another art opportunity, too. Some 600 people enjoyed complimentary fresh-baked cookies and coffee or ice water on the St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church plaza at the Arts Festival in 2006.

This coming year, on June 2, besides complimentary treats, all should come into the air-conditioned quiet space to sit and rest, study the church’s stained glass windows, and peruse the show of works by Thom Lister, St. Anthony Park resident and church member.

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Hello from Montana, No Bones reader! I am writing from the dead center of Montana, where I’ve been doing fieldwork with my husband, Ray, and three-year-old daughter, Lucy.

We’re taking a day off in the little town of Lewistown, where the annual Cowboy Poetry Festival has nearly every hotel room in town full.

For the last few weeks we have traversed the entire state of Montana in search of new dinosaur fossils and localities.

Our trip began with a drive along the eastern front of the Rockies, from Missoula all the way north to Glacier Park. The mountains along the eastern front include rocks that were deposited from 65 to 150 million years ago.

These rocks have yielded some of the world’s most famous dinosaur finds, from baby dinosaurs and nestling grounds to herds of horned ceratopsians.

All these fossils are interesting, but they are Cretaceous in age, and we were most interested in older rocks making up the Morrison Formation, rather than these younger discoveries.

The Morrison Formation is well known in other parts of the world, and includes famous dinosaur sites like Dinosaur National Monument.

In the mountains’ sheer cliff faces, the rocks representing that time period are well exposed, and we could see sandstones representing ancient rivers and mudstones representing the floodplains and lakes associated with the rivers.

We got a great look at them before heading to the central part of Montana, where the same rocks are only found ringing small mountain ranges and are usually grass and tree covered.

The Morrison Formation in these areas often bear bones from the long-necked sauropods and other herbivorous dinosaurs (like Stegosaurus), as well as the teeth and bones of big meat-eaters like Allosaurus.

After scouring the grassy hills in the central part of Montana, we headed even further south to a place called Paradise Valley, where we found loads of really cool bones of long-necked dinosaurs and even discovered some exciting new places to continue our exploration next year.

Along the way we’ve met up with some amazing friends and seen some amazing things that all add so much to this kind of expedition.

Our friends Ralph and Melissa orchestrated a “back-country fly-in” while we were working in the Missouri Breaks.

With 20 pilots from all over the United States flew from their small planes onto the grassy runway in a tiny town literally at the end of the road and celebrated the entire town showed up for Lucy met a deer named Cutie that eats animal crackers and bananas out of your hand but lives in the wilds of the high Montana plains.

We stopped off along the way with a guy that lives in Utica, Montana — home of the famous central Montana cowboy roundup and one-time hangout of famed western artist Charlie Russell — and saw hand-rigged sapphire mines, lamas, a goat named Moe and a dog named Fessy.

All told, this summer’s Montana adventure has been just for all of us — lugging by day in search of bones, with lots of accompanying personalities and experiences that make the work even more fun and rewarding.

And yes, we found amazing rocks that contain dinosaurs, and we can’t wait to get back next summer to dig them up. Till next time, happy hunting!
Local board members return from Uganda

by Marilyn Grantham

James Garubanda and Patricia Owen, board members of Hope Multipurpose Incorporated (HMI), returned August 3 from visiting the Blue House Orphanage in Uganda. The orphanage is HMI’s project to provide a safe and loving home for AIDS orphans in Kazo Parish in southwestern Uganda.

There are currently an estimated 1.7 million AIDS-related orphans in Uganda, out of a total population estimated at nearly 28.2 million. Uganda has the largest number of AIDS-related orphans in the world.

The Blue House was begun by James’ wife, Beatrice Garubanda, who died in September 2005. The Garubandas came to the United States from Uganda as refugees in 1997. When they returned in 2003 and 2004, Beatrice and James were shocked by the number of homeless orphans whose parents had died of AIDS, especially in Kazo Parish, Beatrice’s home area. They began forming a nonprofit organization to address the situation.

Before leaving on their trip, Garubanda and Owen were blessed at a July 9 service by Rev. Blair Pogue, other HMI board members and members of St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church. They took with them 15 quilts made for the 12 orphan girls currently living in the Blue House by the Dorcas Quilters at Brooklyn Park Lutheran Church. Each quilt is embroidered with a Bible verse in the local dialect.

The existing Blue House in Kazo Town housing 12 girls is only temporary. The Garubandas bought 8.7 acres of land on which to build a permanent orphanage that will provide a home for as many as 200 needy children. A maternal/child health center, a meeting hall that can also be used for community activities, and gardens and facilities for small livestock are also planned.

On their trip, Garubanda and Owen, a former Peace Corps volunteer in Senegal, met with the 12 orphan girls currently living in the Blue House, their caregivers and the Ugandan board of directors to begin making more definite plans for the new building. The information they gathered will enable the board here to begin raising money for construction as well as operating funds for the orphanage.

Garubanda and Owen will report their findings at a dinner and fundraising event on Sunday, September 24, at 4 p.m. at the Higher Ground Academy, 1381 Marshall Ave. in St. Paul. Ugandan crafts and other locally produced items will be sold.
Chinese ministries team to purchase building near U of M’s St. Paul campus

by Mary Mergenthal

How important is a building?

The Hospitality Center for Chinese, located near the University of Minnesota’s St. Paul campus, recently decided that their home of 14 years at the corner of Cleveland and Doswell was worth sacrificing for.

But that is not the case for the Hospitality Center for Chinese (HCC) located near the University of Minnesota’s St. Paul campus.

HCC serves the U of M’s large Chinese population. To purchase the building where they had been renting space, they teamed with China Service Ventures, a five-year-old group that works to foster relationships between Christian communities and individuals in North America and those in China.

But the HCC is still under discussion. An opening reception is planned for October 15.

“Many Chinese are amazed that for Chinese,” said Gronseth.

“Our mission dovetails with that of the Hospitality Center for Chinese,” said Gronseth.

“Many Chinese are amazed that the province in which we work is Henan, since it’s considered a backward area. We’ve considered hosting a Henan Night at the new building to make connections with students and scholars who might have roots or interest in Henan.”

HCC’s Wyssmann said that as co-owners of the building they long called home, they want to increase their ministry both to Chinese and Americans.

“We hope to network with Twin Cities businesses, because we have access to a large group of bilingual, talented Chinese who would be available for employment or mentoring. We also hope to expand our English language class for Chinese family members.”

Among the services HCC provides is coordinating field trips for parents and children, collecting furniture for new arrivals, placing new students with host families and sponsoring a Tuesday evening sport night.

A new name for the building is still under discussion. An opening reception is planned for October 15.

Landscaping will begin in mid-September, an Eagle Scout project of Andrew Albing and Scout Troop 297, which includes members from Lauderdale and Falcon Heights. They would welcome helpers for the project.

Call Albing at 633-3957 to volunteer.

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St. Anthony Park Business Council
Although the concert in the dark was unusually dramatic, Music in the Park Series has forged a reputation for consistently impressing its audience. Himmelstrup credits the neighborhood for Music in the Park’s success. “That’s the spirit of St. Anthony Park people,” she said. “I believe the people are the reason that Music in the Park has continued. I can’t imagine this happening in any other place.”

The venerable institution that is Music in the Park Series was born out of the love and passion that one musician, Julie Himmelstrup, had for chamber music. A gifted pianist, Himmelstrup has always loved what happens when small groups of musicians come together. She wanted others to experience the power of this type of music in an intimate setting.

Over the years, that setting hasn’t changed. “The church is small,” Himmelstrup conceded, “but I’d never want to go to a larger place. We’d lose so much. I’d never leave there.”

Right now, Himmelstrup is looking forward to her 28th season, which begins September 24 with Trio Les Amies, featuring Carol Wincec, flutist, and New York Philharmonic principals Cynthia Phelps, viola, and Nancy Allen, harp. This is a homecoming for Phelps and Wincec, who were principals with the Minnesota Orchestra and Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra respectively.

“We’re opening the season earlier because of their schedules,” Himmelstrup said. “They started off in Minnesota, went on to New York and now are back to Minnesota for this concert. They’ve performed for the Series in the past and are simply excellent.”

Music in the Park also includes Family Series concerts, held at nearby St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church. For many children, it’s their first introduction to chamber music. “We need the arts even more now,” said Himmelstrup. “The arts reaffirm the human race, and I hate to see funding for them cut in the schools. When I see these kids of all backgrounds coming together to our children’s events, I see the power of the music in their excitement.”

Regarding her own future with the Series, Himmelstrup said, “I see myself easing into a less involved role.” Still, she’s not quick to pinpoint an exact date. “I’m busy all year round,” she said, “organizing things and going to New York to find new talent.” Agents also approach Himmelstrup about their clients. “I pick people I love, the ones with passion for the music,” she said.

She grew reflective when discussing changes in the world. “Since 9/11, I feel this turmoil. The Series is a lot of things to a lot of people, but since 9/11, I also think of it as a place for all of us to come together. It’s a way to maybe rekindle hope, which we need a lot of right now.”

Music in the Park Series’ 28th season opens Sunday, September 24, at 4 p.m. with Trio Les Amies. All concerts are held at St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ, 2129 Commonwealth Ave. For more information, visit www.musicintheparkseries.org.

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When a woodpecker makes a hole in a tree, that’s just the entrance to a nest chamber or cavity in the softer heartwood. Many birds take over abandoned woodpecker nests as their own. But why would a bird smear pitch around the entrance of its nest cavity?

When I first read about this, I thought of pitch as the black tar used for road repair. Reading further, I discovered it is balsam or pine sap, and the bird that does it is the red-breasted nuthatch.

The female does most of the “decorating” around the entrance hole, carrying a droplet of sap on the tip of her beak and, in successive trips, smearing it over every bit of exposed wood at the entrance, extending several inches from the opening. They’ve even been seen carrying sap on a piece of bark and using it as a tool to “trowel” sap onto the wood.

On one of my first field trips with the St. Paul Audubon Society, I spotted a white-breasted nuthatch and called out “nuthatch.” One of the leaders of the trip expanded the identification to “white-breasted nuthatch.” I thought that was pretty arrogant. If I had seen a robin and called it out, would he have corrected me with “American robin?”

Months later, I realized he was only helping us understand that we could be seeing both white-breasted and red-breasted nuthatches here in Minnesota.

We had a red-breasted nuthatch at our feeder in early August, taking a few suflower and sunflower seeds. We hadn’t seen one since mid-October of last year. The red-breasted nuthatch is a smaller, slightly modified version of the white-breasted nuthatch. Both are rather chubby-looking, seem nervous and have sharp, chisel-shaped bills.

Both are very adept at crawling up and down tree trunks and limbs. Nuthatches can crawl head-first down the trunk, whereas brown creepers don’t and woodpeckers can’t do so easily. If you see a bird crawling down a trunk, it’s probably a nuthatch.

The red-breasted nuthatch has a black stripe through its eye with white above it. It also has a rusty red chest and tummy, and averages four and a half inches long.

The white-breasted nuthatch lacks the black eyestripe, having a clear, white face. Its body is white underneath with chestnut-colored undertail feathers and is five to six inches long. Both nuthatches cache food, tucking away seeds and bits of suet under pieces of bark. Red-breasted nuthatches often plug the hole with another piece of bark. Nuthatches even cache seeds in the swirls of the pattern on stucco walls.

Unlike crows and ravens, which cache food for a rainy day, nuthatches seem to cache it nearby for short-term retrieval so they can get a quick bedtime snack or grab a breakfast boost the next morning.

Red-breasted nuthatches feed mostly on conifer seeds. Loose flocks of them can often be seen feeding at the tips of balsams, pines and spruce trees, working to pry the seeds out of the pine cones.

Both nuthatches are cavity nesters, using abandoned woodpecker nests or excavating their own nests in dead or dying trees or storm-damaged stumps.

This brings me back to the pitch-smeared entrance hole of the red-breasted nuthatch. I thought I had an innovative answer when I read that the red-breasted nuthatch flies directly into the nest hole to feed the hatchlings. I thought maybe the pitch made it easier to slip in.

But then I remembered that pitch — pine sap — is sticky and might actually be a problem for the bird. In fact, there is one report of a female red-breasted nuthatch found dead, stuck to the sap in the entrance hole.

Through experiments in the wild, scientists have found that smearing up around a nest entrance hole deters squirrels from raiding it and significantly reduces the attractiveness of the nest site for house wrens. So the red-breasted nuthatch may be trying to dissuade competitors and predators.

White-breasted nuthatches don’t smear pitch, although they nest in the same holes, but they have their own unique routines. They’ve been known to grab a certain type of beetle in their bill and then sweep both the inside and the outside of the nest with the crushed insect. The beetle exudes a pungent oil that apparently deters red squirrels from entering the nest.

The birds have also been known to collect nicotine-filled cigarette filters, lining their nests with the smelly butts, again to repel intruders. I wonder if white-breasted nuthatches lack a sense of smell.

White-breasted nuthatches are pretty much permanent residents throughout Minnesota and don’t migrate with any regularity.

The red-breasted nuthatch’s breeding range extends into Minnesota’s northeastern forests and into Canada. They are described as partial migrants, with those farthest north moving a bit farther south in the winter, except in irruption years, when pine cone crops have failed and many more red-breasted nuthatches move much farther south in the fall and winter months.

Red-breasted nuthatches nest as far south as the Twin Cities metropolitan area. In fact, after I posted my sighting on the Minnesota Ornithologists’ Union Web site, suggesting it was a migrant, a friend here in Lauderdale notified me that they’ve been having red-breasted nuthatches at their feeder year-round for the last two years.

Whether the red-breasted nuthatch I saw was one of the Lauderdale resident birds, or whether it forecasts the start of an irruption year, with lots more birds to follow this fall and winter, look for a red-breasted nuthatch at a feeder near you.
What happened to 2188 Como?

by Clay Christensen

If you look for 2188 Como Avenue West, you won’t find it. Although that address exists on the Ramsey County tax rolls, the numbers on the doors of a building on Como, Knapp and Hillside are 2190 and 2192. The missing street number resulted after yet another car crashed into the building and then-owner Gary Bauman rebuilt the southeast corner, removing the 2188 entrance and leaving the other two.

The building has suffered many collisions with automobiles over the years. Bauman says it’s because Como Avenue was pitched toward the building while at the same time sloping downhill and rounding a curve for eastbound vehicles. Someone with just a little too much speed on a slick road could easily hit the building.

In fact, Bauman said, one day he and his father, Lynn, came to work and found a car sitting halfway through the plate glass window. There was an overgrown grassy yard leading down to the basement. We had spent almost a year to persuade the neighbors to agree to his plan to transform the property at 2186 Como Avenue from two small apartments into the site for his business.

What Smith knew — but the neighbors may not have realized — was that he wasn’t so much impressed with the building’s Tudor look, “but that he wanted to change the building to restore it to its original purpose. The modest building near the intersection of Como Avenue and Knapp Street had begun its existence in 1933 as a commercial structure. For its first two decades, it was a small shoe-repair shop, with living quarters attached to the rear.

Shoemaker Henry Blanchette was the first owner/occupant. After he died in 1947, his widow, Mary, continued to own the building until his retirement in 1984. In 1985, Townley remodeled the basement and moved his real estate business downstairs, while a new insurance agent, Jim Rothenbach, took 2188 Como to 16.

Working with local builder Tim Abrahamson and making use of architectural plans that an old college friend had drawn up, Smith refashioned the space into a workroom and showroom for his business. The design inspiration for the remodeling project was the St. Anthony Park home into a floral showplace, he began upgrading the plantings at the frame shop about five years ago. As his business prospered, Smith was able to turn his attention to the grounds surrounding his building. With the support of his wife, Karen Miller, an enthusiastic amateur gardener who turned the yard of their former St. Anthony Park home into a floral showplace, Smith was able to turn his attention to the grounds surrounding his building. With the support of his wife, Karen Miller, an enthusiastic amateur gardener who turned the yard of their former St. Anthony Park home into a floral showplace, he began upgrading the plantings at the frame shop about five years ago.

Smith says he knew the moment had come to rethink his landscaping when the owner of the adjoining property proposed bringing in a backhoe to change the retaining wall. Knowing that the heavy machinery would tear the earth up in any case, Smith

Why is Carter Avenue Frame Shop on Como Avenue?

by Judy Woodward

I took Tim Smith, the owner of the Carter Avenue Frame Shop, almost a year to persuade the neighbors to agree to his plan to transform the property at 2186 Como Avenue from two small apartments into the site for his business. The design inspiration for the remodeling project was the St. Anthony Park home into a floral showplace, he began upgrading the plantings at the frame shop about five years ago. As his business prospered, Smith was able to turn his attention to the grounds surrounding his building. With the support of his wife, Karen Miller, an enthusiastic amateur gardener who turned the yard of their former St. Anthony Park home into a floral showplace, he began upgrading the plantings at the frame shop about five years ago.

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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. The series will conclude next month.

**Staying put on Como Avenue**

by Antonie Young

September marks the 118th anniversary of Children’s Home Society & Family Services, making it one of the oldest nonprofit organizations in St. Paul. The anniversary is particularly noteworthy for St. Anthony Park residents because the organization has been located there since its inception, staying in the neighborhood through a variety of changes.

Children’s Home Society is a full-service agency that focuses on helping children and families. Services have evolved over the years to meet the changing needs of the community. Founded in 1889, Children’s Home Society merged with Family Services, Inc. in 2003. The merger allowed for individual and family counseling services to be added to Children’s Home Society’s expertise in domestic and international adoption.

CHS’s stated mission is “to help children thrive and to build, strengthen and sustain individual, family and community life.” According to Kristine Huson, the organization’s many services have in common a focus on effective parenting. “We are very able to adapt our services and leverage our expertise wherever we see the need in a community arise,” she said.

The society began as a result of the orphan train movement in the late 1800s, when orphans and displaced immigrant children from the East Coast were dispersed throughout the country by railway. “A lot of those children ended up back in the same situation; they were on the streets needing the basics of life in a new town,” said Pastor Donna Martinson of St. Anthony Park’s United Methodist Church.

**Serving the Spirit, serving the community,**

**Serving Dinner:**

**St. Anthony Park’s United Methodist Church**

by Sabra Waldfogel

Pastor Donna Martinson of St. Anthony Park’s United Methodist Church says, “We have a running joke at the church. It’s United Methodist: there must be a potluck somewhere.”

The church, now located on Hillside Avenue, just off Como, has nourished the spiritual life of a congregation for more than a hundred years. But it has fed more than a few stomachs since its beginning, too.

Six charter members founded St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church in 1889. Two years later they built the first church building at the corner of Raymond Avenue and Manvel Street, in south St. Anthony Park. Within two decades, the congregation had outgrown that space. They hired the St. Paul firm of William Alban and James Fisher, who had built handsome neo-Gothic churches in Wisconsin and Iowa, to design their building. The new church was built in 1911 and dedicated in 1912.

A dozen years later, the church needed more space, this time for the Sunday School. An educational wing was added in 1925. When the Depression hit, members paid off the debt by contributing their extra pennies, a day at a time. Church member Edna Wright Shannon

Members of St. Anthony Park Methodist Church ran a dining hall at the State Fair for over 70 years.

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Arts Events
Music in the Park Series opens its 2006–2007 season with a September 24 concert by Trio Les Mies, which consists of Carol Wincenc, flute; Cynthia Phelps, viola; and Nancy Allen, harp. Phelps and Wincenc are former principals with the Minnesota Orchestra and the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra. The trio will perform works by Debussy, Ibert, Nielsen, Shostakovich and Takemitsu.

The 4 p.m. concert takes place at St. Anthony Park UCC, 2129 Commonwealth Ave. For ticket information, call 645-5699. For more concert details, visit www.musicintheparkseries.org.

The Women's Human Rights Film Series presents “Bride Kidnapping in Kyrgyzstan” at 7 p.m. on Thursday, September 28, at the St. Anthony Park Library. Rosalyn Park, a staff attorney in the Women's Program at Minnesota Advocates, will lead a discussion after the film. The free showing is sponsored by the Friends of the St. Paul Public Library.

Elder Cohousing
An informational meeting about elder cohousing communities will be held Tuesday, September 19, from 7 to 8:45 p.m. in the meeting room of the St. Anthony Park Library. A video will be shown, followed by a question-and-answer session. For more information, contact Susan Hardman: sagesusan71@aol.com.

Churches
St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church will host Julia Dinsmore on Monday, September 11, at 7 p.m. She will speak on poverty. On September 15 and 16, the church will conduct “Walk Thru the Old Testament,” led by Johann Hinderlie. The Friday session is from 7 to 9 p.m. (preceded by a pasta supper); the Saturday session is 9 a.m. to noon. A related program for children in grades 1–5 will be led by Angie Hitterdal, and childcare will be available for younger children and infants. Registration forms are available at the church. The cost is $15/family, $10/individual.

Peace Lutheran Church will hold an outdoor worship service at 10 a.m. on Sunday, September 17, at Lauderdale Park.

Media Conference
The Twin Cities Media Alliance will host a free public forum, “Citizens and the Future of News,” on Saturday, September 16, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Sundin Hall on the campus of Hamline University. The forum will feature a conversation between media critic and NYU professor Mark Crispin Miller and Lizz Winstead, co-creator of “The Daily Show,” as well as panel discussions on “Citizens and the Twin Cities Mainstream Media” and “Citizens and Community and Emerging News Media.” For more information, call Becky Clawson at 612-456-9182.

Recreation
The Falcon Heights Parks and Recreation youth fall soccer program begins September 23 and continues on Saturday mornings through October 28. Three levels of skill development and scrimmages are offered: grades K–1, 2–3, and 4–5. Registration forms are available at www.ci.falcon-heights.mn.us or at City Hall, 2077 W. Larpenteur Ave.

Falcon Heights Parks and Recreation offers fall Hatha yoga sessions at City Hall, 2077 W. Larpenteur. Classes run September 19 through October 24. Beginning yoga is 10–11 a.m. Intermediate yoga is 11:15 a.m.–12:15 p.m. Classes cost $55 for residents, $65 for nonresidents. Register at City Hall or online at www.ci.falcon-heights.mn.us.

Northwest Como Recreation Center will hold its annual fall festival on Saturday, September 23, from 4 to 10 p.m. The event includes soccer games, races, carnival games, DJ WonWord and a bonfire. Concessions will be sold. Volunteers are needed to.

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help with the event. To volunteer, call Karen Terry at 298-5813.

The Como Area Hockey Association will hold registration for boys and girls ages 3–14 at North Dale Recreation Center, 1414 N. St. Albans. Sessions are September 12, 6–8 p.m.; September 14, 6–8 p.m.; and September 16, 10 a.m.–noon.

For more information, contact Lisa at 489-5938.

Anniversary Sale
The Bibelot Shops will celebrate their 40th anniversary with a sale on September 16 and 17.

MOMS Club
The St. Anthony Park/Como West chapter of MOMS Club will hold an open house at Tilden Park (Arona Avenue between Albany and Almond) on September 22. MOMS Club is an international nonprofit organization that offers daytime activities and support for mothers who are home during the day with their children.

For more information, contact Tamara Mans at 646-8885.

Bicycling Summit
The St. Paul Bicycle Advisory Board will hold a Bicycling Summit at 7 p.m. on September 13 at Dunning Recreation Center, 1221 Marshall Ave.

Also, the SPBAB is conducting a survey of St. Paul bicyclists. The survey can be accessed at www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=885612383161.

University of Minnesota
Two major building projects are underway at the U of M’s St. Paul Campus. A new equine center is being built on the east edge of the campus. It will provide additional space for the diagnosis and treatment of horses. The Twin Cities has the second-highest number of horses per capita of any metropolitan area in the country, and the number of horses treated at the U of M has doubled in recent years. Completion of the new center is set for September 2007.

The old (1907) Dairy Barn on Fitch Avenue is undergoing renovation to become the Ben Pomeroy Student-Alumni Learning Center for the College of Veterinary Medicine. The $5.1 million project will alter the building’s interior and provide classrooms, offices and meeting space. In addition, exterior work on windows, roofing and tuckpointing is underway. Completion is expected by spring 2007.

HOURCAR
HOURCAR, a program of the Neighborhood Energy Connection, will unveil a plug-in hybrid car at the 2006 Minnesota State Fair. The Toyota Prius hybrid has been modified to get more mileage from electricity, extending its fuel efficiency to as much as 100 miles per gallon.

The car will be displayed in the Progress Center Building at the corner of Cosgrove Street and Randall Avenue.

It takes four to five hours to charge the car’s battery from a standard 120-volt outlet. Each charge powers about 30 miles of travel. When the charge runs low, the car’s gas-electric motor takes over.

HOURCAR is a car-sharing service with seven hubs in the Twin Cities, including one in St. Anthony Park.

Cell Phone Recycling
Como Park Zoo and Conservatory and the St. Paul Public Libraries are co-sponsoring a cell phone recycling program. Unwanted cell phones and accessories may be deposited in collection boxes at all 13 St. Paul Public Libraries.

The phones will be recycled by Eco-Cell, a Kentucky-based company. Proceeds will go to the Orangeutan Conservancy, a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving the critically endangered orangutan and its habitat.

People
Becky Swanson is the new interim music director and worship planner at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church. She was a piano major at Augsburg College and received a master’s degree in sacred music from Luther Seminary. Currently she is in the process of becoming a deaconess.

In addition to playing piano, Swanson is an accomplished classical accordionist. She helped form the Minnesota Accordion Orchestra, a five-member ensemble that plays transcriptions of works by Dvorak, Copeland, Bernstein and others.

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fears or prejudices.
Greetings
Salon
St. Anthony Park Garden Tour.
"We're eager to get into Carter Avenue Frame from 12
decided, "It was a good time to change the garden."If the neighbors still had any lingering doubts about the zoning variance that had restored the building to commercial status, the new and improved garden seems simply put to rest. In 2005, the shop achieved such flower splendor that the Frame Shop was invited to participate in the annual St. Anthony Park Garden Tour. Smith says he has considered adding a solar electrical system to his building, but that's down the road. His top real estate priority now is his newly purchased north St. Anthony Park home. "We’re eager to get into gardening there," he says.

Stayed put from 13
Beth Naugton, CHS development officer. "The Reverend Edward Savage said, "We are going to stop that train here (in Minnesota); we are going to get those children medical care; we are going to house them, feed them, clothe them, and then we’re going to make some matches with people who want to be parents," Naugton said of the organization’s origins. So began the CHS process of placing children in sound families through screening and education. Residents of St. Anthony Park might not be aware that the CHS’s original building still stands, just behind the organization’s Como Avenue location, known as the Toogood building. What is now the St. Anthony Park Home was originally an orphanage built by the Society in 1889.
"If you go into the nursing home, there are still remnants of days gone by when it was an orphanage, from the dormer rooms up on the third floor, down to the kitchen in the basements," said Naugton. "You can just imagine a horse-drawn wagon being backed up to the door to bring supplies and milk. A lot of adopted adults will come back and want to take that walk down memory lane."
In the 1950s, when social welfare standards deemed it necessary for children to be placed with families, Minnesota entered a foster care system, making the orphanage obsolete. The original building was sold. The property on the corner of Como and Commonwealth, the Toogood building, was donated to the Society by a local family, and all of the adoption services were moved there at the building’s completion in 1959.
CHS has undergone a series of physical changes over the years. When Park Bank vacated the space between the Toogood building and Multiflora, the rapidly growing agency decided to build a walkway adjoining the buildings, allowing for more expansion space. Later the old bank building was torn down during renovations to the Toogood building. At the same time, CHS began construction of its new building on Eustis. In 2001, CHS moved its adoption services to the Eustis site. What remains on Como is a portion of the Society’s services. "We found out during a feasibility study that our donors did not want us to sell the Toogood building," said Naugton. "It was too nostalgic. Too many adopted children and their parents want to go back to that building and to the exact room where they met."
Although the Toogood building may not have as prominent a role in CHS’s continued growth as it used to, the building housed the organization during some of its most important years. "At about 70 years old, which is how old the organization was when it moved into (Toogood), we had placed more than 8100 children," Naugton said. "Moving into the new location allowed us to broaden the function of the agency and what kind of programs and services we could provide by being in that professional environment."

Methodist Church from 13
recalled in 1989, “Every week they would turn those pennies in. When they came in I had to count those pennies. It was amazing how much was collected that way.”
The church continued to grow, and by the 1950s, the building needed to expand again. Architects Dale McEniry and Edwin Krafft of Merrill Birch and Associates redesigned the sanctuary and added the present-day offices and chapel. Work was completed in 1958. At the same time, the church bought the site of the former Gutterson Elementary School for use as a parking lot. It was especially appropriate, since the school was named after Gilbert Gutterson, an active member of the church in its early years.

Back before the church began its second building campaign, it still owed money from the first construction project in 1981. In 1903, then-pastor Fryberg decided that to help retire their debt, the church should serve meals at the State Fair. He enlisted the Ladies’ Aid Society to run the dinner hall. Alma Gutterson, wife of Gilbert Gutterson and active in the church in her own right, headed the effort. Her team prepped, chopped, baked and fricasseed enough to raise $700, and the United Methodist Dining Hall became a yearly endeavor.

Starting in 1910, the dining hall needed half of the Dairy Building, and by 1923 the church was renting the entire structure for its restaurant. At its heyday, nearly 200 church members worked in the dining hall, a cross-section of the entire congregation. The funds they raised allowed the church to pay off the mortgage for its first building and helped build a parsonage in 1906. The venture continued until 1974, when the church sold the concession.
The dining hall provided more than a meal. In the church’s 1989 centennial publication, an anonymous author observed, “It was a ministry of service to carnival workers and concession stand workers. It was a place where these travelers of the road could rest for a few minutes between shifts and get a home-cooked, wholesome, nonfried meal at a low cost.” It was fun for those who worked there, too. In her 1989 recollections, Shannon said, “The young people of the church loved (working at the State Fair). They got a free ticket in and had a great time going to the different activities. Then after the dining room closed in the evening, they had time to go down to the place where they had the carnival.”
The church had gone through many activities as well. There was a Sunday School, with associated clubs for children of all ages, from toddlers to high school students. At one point the church even had a baseball team.

Women’s activities were essential to the church. The Ladies’ Aid Society, which focused on activities within the church, was augmented in the mid-teens by missionary societies, which focused outward. By the mid-1920s there were active organizations for girls in high school, “business and professional women,” and their stay-at-home sisters. Not surprisingly, the Women’s Circle of the 1950s launched a catering service, which contributed to the church’s coffers. The present women’s organization, Methodist Women, combines religious study with food and friendship. United Methodist Church reached out to the students at the nearby College of Agriculture through the Wesley Fellowship, which started in 1924. For many foundation members, one highlight of their experience involved food.

Robert Munson, a longtime church member, wrote in 1989, “As an undergraduate in the College of Agriculture at the University of Minnesota, my first recall of St. Anthony Park Methodist Church was the Orange Blossom bazaar.”

Everyone came and enjoyed chow mein and noodles, eaten with chopsticks and tea.

St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church is rooted in the neighborhood. Martinson estimates that about half of the congregation lives in the immediate area, and much of the remainder comes from Lauderdale or Falcon Heights. She says, “It’s not a regional church. It’s really in the neighborhood.”
The church extends its hand to the surrounding neighborhood through a preschool program, the Leisure Center for seniors and the St. Anthony Park Block Nurse Program, which has an office in the church and which Martinson calls “a great connection to the community.”

Since the State Fair dining hall closed, the church has featured pies at its fall celebration and last year had a pancake breakfast. At St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church, there’s still a potluck somewhere.
September 5 is the first day of school for all St. Paul students. Before then, St. Anthony Park Elementary is looking forward to a Family Open House on August 31, an opportunity for students and parents to familiarize themselves with the school. Families can begin visiting at 2 p.m.; grades 1–6 arrive between 3 and 5 p.m. All rooms are open for touring.

The school is especially pleased to showcase its state-of-the-art tech lab, which received 36 new computers this summer. The newly stocked vocal music room is another stop to make September 13 at picture day. Students should dress nicely and wear a smile. September 14 is the all-school fundraiser kickoff assembly. Support your school and earn some prize prizes by participating in the all-school fundraiser.

Two seniors from Como Park Senior High School have been appointed by St. Paul Mayor Chris Coleman to serve on the Second Shift Youth Commission. Carina Engeltys lives in the Como neighborhood and will be a senior at Como Park Senior High. She is involved in Youthrive, Fresh Force, choir and St. Paul’s Adaptive Rec Program. Sylvia Page lives in St. Anthony Park and is involved in theater, speech club and volunteering at the St. Anthony Park Public Library.

St. Paul NEAT (Network of Education Action Teams) will host a public reception with St. Paul School Superintendent Maria Carstarphen on September 29 at 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Metropolitan State University (700 E. 7th St.) in the Main Hall.

On August 29, Falcon Heights Elementary School students will gather for a back-to-school kickoff, including a parade through the neighborhood. The event starts at 6:30 p.m.

Twin Cities German Immersion School still has some openings in kindergarten and first grade. There is a waiting list for second grade. Call 492-7106 for more information.

Murray Junior High School will hold its annual student orientation on August 31. Orientation for seventh graders is from 9 to 11 a.m., with eighth-grade orientation from 1 to 3 p.m. Students and parents can get class schedules, meet teachers, tour the building, get lockers and school planners, and put money in a lunch account.

School starts at 8:05 a.m. on September 5. Students are released at 2:40 p.m. Students will report to homeroom for the first class on the first day of school.

September 13 is picture day. Students should dress nicely and wear a smile. September 14 is the all-school fundraiser kickoff assembly. Support your school and earn some prize prizes by participating in the all-school fundraiser.

St. Paul NEAT (Network of Education Action Teams) will host a public reception with St. Paul School Superintendent Maria Carstarphen on September 29 at 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Metropolitan State University (700 E. 7th St.) in the Main Hall.
As we age, we find ourselves visiting doctors’ offices more frequently. For those of us who also care for another aging person, this increase doubles.

Since I was diagnosed with cancer two years ago, I have spent more time in medical offices and hospitals than during all my previous years.

Medical services can be impersonal; long waits to see medical personnel are not uncommon; medical explanations may be hard to understand.

All of this can be very frustrating, but there are some things you can do to make your medical appointments both less difficult and more effective.

Put together a medical file.
Make a list of all conditions you (or your loved one) are being treated for, all prescriptions you are taking and any other treatments you may receive. Be sure to include any herbal supplements or vitamins you take.
You can get an outline brochure for this file by calling the Block Nurse office (642-9052) and leaving your name and address.
Add to this a brief synopsis of previous medical treatments you’ve had. List the doctors you see, along with treatments you are receiving from each. Take this file with you to every medical appointment and all outdated information occasionally; that way, it will always be up to date.
Verify appointments.
Call the office prior to every appointment to make sure they are expecting you when you think they are. In this age of computerized medical records, a single wrong keystroke can change the date and time of any appointment.
If several visits will be necessary, ask what times are less busy and try to schedule appointments at such times to minimize wait.
If you need help with transportation, you will need to coordinate your appointments so that your driver is sure to be available.

For example, when the Block Nurse Program provides transportation to medical appointments, we prefer to have the volunteer coordinator make the appointments at times when she knows volunteer drivers are available.

Gather questions and document symptoms. If you have exhausting pain at midnight, by the time you see a physician the following day, you may have a tough time describing it. jot down questions, symptoms and concerns as they occur to you so that you can ask the doctor everything you need to know during your appointment.

Follow up. Ask questions of the doctor during your appointment. Ask for written copies of the doctor’s orders for your medical file. If you realize later that you forgot something, call and get the information you need.

Spend a little time talking to the reception staff and find out what times are best to call the doctor. As in anything else, a little schmoozing can go a long way toward making your medical appointments more pleasant and more effective in keeping you healthy.

The St. Anthony Park Block Nurse Program is sponsoring the following events over the next several weeks. Call our office for more information.
• Flu Shot Clinic, October 21
• 25th Anniversary Celebration October 2, St. Anthony Park Library
• Flu Shot Clinic, October 21

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@bitstream.net.
Lauderdale resident publishes memoir

by Michelle Christianson

A ll through their childhood, Ruth Knutson’s grand-children listened to stories of their grandmother’s early years in Switzerland. They loved to hear how she lived with her parents and grandparents in the village of Dornach, about the beautiful country with its mountains and valleys, and especially about the funny stories she did as a child.

“I was a holy terror,” Knutson says. But when she sat down to record those memories, she realized that the funny stories were not the whole story. She had to tell the sad and hard parts of her life as well. Thus began a three-year journey that ended recently with a fully illustrated, 320-page book.

On the Other Side of the Ocean, which is primarily about Knutson’s early life, is a clear-eyed but loving portrait of growing up with an alcoholic father in a but loving portrait of growing up with an alcoholic father in a

Ruth Knutson’s grand-knuson’s strong spirit that she is as a depiction of childhood with another culture, the book is valuable. But it is also invaluable

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Support Our Local Independents!

Mark Your Calendars...

Tuesday, September 26, 7-9 pm, St. Anthony Park Elementary School
What: Saint Anthony Park Community Foundation Annual Public Meeting
Topic: “Support Your Community by Strengthening Your Retail”
Featured Speaker: Tim Dykstal, Executive Director of Metro Independent Business Alliance
Agenda: Presentation and discussion about strengthening our retail through a “Neighborhood First” campaign.

Why: This is your chance to help shape the future of our neighborhood!

St. Anthony Park Community Foundation
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Music

Coffee Grounds
1577 Hiale Ave
641-9915, 373-2600
Raymond Var
September 2, 8pm
Open mic with Bill Hammond
September 3, 8pm
Merheen Haji
September 8, 8pm
Red Book Jazz
September 11, 7:30pm
Room Music Showcase with Bill Coyle
September 14, 7pm
Black Bear Blues (Open mic)
September 15, 8pm
Poor Bohemian
September 16, 8pm
Open mic with Bill Hammond
September 17, 6pm
Red Book Jazz
September 18, 7:30pm
Scott Barco CD release party
September 22, 8pm

Strohm (Baroque music and dancing)
September 23, 8pm
Red Book Jazz
September 25, 7:30pm
Annonie Kar CD release party
September 29, 8pm
Ginkgo Coffeehouse
721 N. Snelling Ave., 645-2677
Bluesgrass and Oldtime Jam Sessions
September 27, 7pm
Open Stage
First and third Wednesdays
6pm sign-up
Music in the Park Series
St. Anthony Park UCC
2129 Commonwealth Ave.
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www.musicintheparkseries.org
Trio Les Amies
September 24, 4pm

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St. Anthony Park Library
2245 Como Ave., 642-0411
Film: “Bride Kidnapping in Kyrgyzstan”
September 28, 7pm
St. Paul Student Center
University of Minnesota
612-625-0214
Paintings, Glassworks and Assemblages
Works by artists from the Midwest:
Ken Hoffman, Martha Kauppi, J.R. Kabot
August 31-Oct 5
Reception September 7, 6-8pm
Paul Whitney Larson Gallery
Undercroft Gallery
St. Matthews Episcopal Church
2136 Carter Ave., 645-3058
Photography by Christy Myers
September 17-October 12
Opening reception: September 17,
11:30am to 1pm

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SEPTEMBER 2006  ■  PARK BUGLE 21

1 Friday
• Senior Center Fun Group (gym, bowling, and cards), South St. Anthony Rec Center, 890 Cromwell, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Every Friday.
• Falcon Heights recycling.

2 Saturday
• Nocturnal Bowling (612-625-5246), 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Copper Spot, St. Paul Student Center, 2017 Buford Ave, St. Paul Campus. Every Saturday.

4 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.

5 Tuesday
• Blood drive at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, 7-8 p.m.
• Como Wood Carvers at the Como Center (1579 Fuller Ave.), 7 p.m. Tuesday.
• First day of school for Murray Jr. High students, 8:05 a.m. to 2:40 p.m. Students will report to homeroom for the first class on the first day of school.
• First day of school for students grades 1-6 at St. Anthony Park Elementary (915 15th Ave. S.), 7 p.m. Tuesday.
• The Save Paul Bunyan's Musical at 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.
• Tea time for 5-year-olds and younger, Como Park Rec Center (298-5765), 10 a.m.-noon. Every Tuesday.
• Toucaningus (649-5162), U.S. Forest Service, 1992 Folwell Ave., St. Paul Campus, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Every Thursday.

6 Wednesday
• The Blood Lusters at the Como Center (1579 Fuller Ave.), 10 a.m. Every Wednesday this month.
• Women’s Connection, a women’s networking organization, at Falcon Heights United Church of Christ (795 Holton St.), 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. First blood pressure clinic by the St. Anthony Park Black Nurse Program 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 11 a.m. to noon.
• First 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.

7 Thursday
• First day of school for kindergartners at St. Anthony Park Elementary (all-day K, 9:15 a.m.-3:45 p.m.).
• Tea Time (for 5-year-olds and younger), South St. Anthony Rec Center (298-5765), 10 a.m.-noon. Every Thursday.
• Toucaningus (649-5162), U.S. Forest Service, 1992 Folwell Ave., St. Paul Campus, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Every Thursday.
• Clean Exercise Classes - Seal Hi-Rise, 825 Seal St. Every Tuesday and Thursday at 12:30 p.m. These classes are free to all seniors, but preregistration is necessary. Call 642-9052 to preregister.

11 Monday
• Park Paws, Inc., Park Bogle Board meeting, St. Anthony Park Book community room, 7 a.m.
• St. Anthony Park Black Nurse Program board of directors meeting, St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church, 7 p.m.
• Join the Falcons for 500 and 7:30 p.m. at Falcon Heights City Hall.

18 Monday
• St. Anthony Park Library Association meeting, 7 p.m. New members welcome.

26 Tuesday
• Free in-store wine sampling at The Little Wine Shoppe, 2236 Como 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 percent off during the tasting.
• Bingo Club event at Como Center (1579 Fuller Ave.), 7 p.m.

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

29 Friday
• Story time for preschoolers ages 3-5, St. Anthony Park Library, 10:30 a.m. Preregistration requested, 642-0411.
• Falcon Heights recycling.

30 Saturday
• Rosary Sale, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church (2129 Commonwealth Ave.). Children’s clothes, DVDs, and CDs, toys, books, household items, and more.

Items for the October Community Calendar must be submitted to the Bugle office by 6 p.m., Friday, September 15.

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Jack Arhart
Jack W. Arhart, age 72, of Como Park, died August 12, 2006. He was preceded in death by his wife, Phyllis, and is survived by son, Craig; daughter, Kaia (Glenn) Johnson; two grandchildren; brothers, Monte (Bonnie) and Gary (Ruthie) Arhart; sister, Dicken Herbst and Dyane (Freddy) Tester; and nieces and nephews. A memorial visitation was held at Roseville Memorial Chapel August 19.

Betsy Downing
Mary Elizabeth “Betsy” Downing, age 83, of Falcon Heights, died peacefully at home August 4, 2006. Betsy (née Meader) grew up in St. Paul, attended the University of Minnesota, was a member of Alpha Phi and graduated from Chatham College. She actively championed the planet’s environmental health and was known for her organization of the conference “Frameworks for the Future.” Her most enduring legacy is a long, unspoiled stretch of lakeshore on Wabana Lake. She was a 46-year member of P.E.O. Chapter K in Jamestown, N.D., and Chapter AB in St. Paul, serving as President from 1983 to 1985. Betsy was known for her wonderfully engaging conversational ability, eagerness to learn and readiness to discuss new ideas. Blind for the past four years, she depended upon audio publications. She is survived by retired Hamline professor William L. Downing, her husband for 60 years; children, Deborah (Philip) Gelbach, John (Marcia) Downing and Elizabeth (George) Colburn; and grandchildren, Katherine and Anna Downing, and Jessica and Emily Colburn. A memorial service and life celebration was held August 26 at Unity Church-Unitarian.

Donald Nelson
Donald E. Nelson, age 85, of Roseville, died recently. He proudly served in World War II and the Korean War and was a member of the 109th Airborne Observation Squadron. Don worked in the floral trade his entire life. He was the great-grandson of Herman and Jane DeBose Gibbs of the historic Gibbs Farm of Ramsey County.

Carabelle O’Connell
Carabelle L. O’Connell, age 92, formerly of Lauderdale and more recently of Arden Hills, died July 30, 2006. She was preceded in death by her husband, Basil. She is survived by daughters and sons, Myrna Hughes, Craig (Bonnie), Mary Lorenz and Marilyn Timm; eight grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. Private family services were held.

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C L A S S I F I E D S

Classified deadline: September 15, 6 p.m.
Next issue: September 27

1 Type or write down your ad, and which section your ad should appear in. Usually we put the first few words in capital letters.
2 Count the words. A word is numbers or letters with a space on each side. A phone number with area code is one word.
3 Figure your cost: 90¢ x number of words ($9.00 minimum).
4 Mail your ad to Bugle Classifieds P.O. Box 8126 St. Paul, MN 55168 or deliver to the Park Bugle drop box at the side entrance to 2190 Como Ave. (on the Knapp Place side of building) by 6 p.m. on the deadline day. We cannot edit your ad.
5 Classifieds cannot be e-mailed, faxed, or taken over the phone.
6 Call us at 651-646-5369, voice mailbox #3, with questions.

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PERFORMANCE ASSOCIATES
Music Studio offers vocal/keyboard instruction designed to serve diverse interests/goals/ages. 651-487-0562.

KRIPALU YOGA CLASSES - 2006 fall session begins week of Sept. 18 at St. Anthony Park, Lutheran Church. Monday nights - Introductory Yoga class, Tuesday nights - Mixed Level class. Call Lauretta at 612-729-1715.

HATHA YOGA classes start week of Sept. 11. Call Holly House, 651-645-0951.

SPECIAL ED. TEACHER available for summer tutoring. Also get set for MCA next year. Local references provided. Free consultation available. Sandra Miller, 651-644-6527.

PIANO LESSONS with a local, experienced teacher/professional pianist. Call Vicky Mackerman, 651-645-7753.

Professional Services
JENNIFER’S PET SITTING - Need someone to care for your pet while you’re away? Don’t put your pet in a cold, expensive kennel! I will give them a warm, loving place to stay whether you’re gone for a while or just for the day. I have over 30 years experience loving & caring for pets, and a beautiful fenced-in yard for them to play. Must be a smaller animal and get along with other pets. All animals considered! Insensitive rates, free consultation, and great deals for long-term care. References available. Call Jennifer at 612-729-6481 today!

STAINED GLASS windows and gifts crafted by Sandy McClure. Custom orders welcomed, 651-644-0631.

GRAPHIC DESIGN—Want fast, quality graphic design services for a fraction of the cost? Big or small, let’s talk about your next project! Call Raymond at 612-339-4769.

PET SITTING - service - dog and cat sitting, house watch, plant watering, mail pick-up, garden and lawn care. I am a graduate student at the U of M with lots of animal experience. Free in-home consultation. Call Amy at 651-895-9676 or hazer02059@umn.edu.

HILLIARD E. SMITH - Const. block, stone, cement work, carpentry, remodeling. 651-644-0715.


Housing
KNAPP AND COMO - 2, 3, & 4 bedroom units available September, 651-438-1160.

BUYING OR SELLING - Call a Certified Residential Specialist with over 35 years experience. Lauderdale resident. Donna Anderson, CRS, Century 21 Jay Blank Realty, 651-653-0061.


For Sale

Sales
RUMMAGE SALE - University Lutheran Church of Hope 601 13th Ave. SE. September 14-16. Thursday and Friday 9am to 8pm. Saturday is Bag Day - fill a grocery bag for $1.00, 9:00am to noon.

Wanted
The Park Bugle is looking to upgrade our aging office equipment. To help with this effort, we are welcoming donations of wi-fi compatible PC laptops (Pentium 4 or better). We are a nonprofit organization, and your donations may be tax deductible. For more information or to arrange a donation, please e-mail us at parkbugle@yahoo.com.

ALL SEASONS CLEANERS
Full Service Professional Dry Cleaners and Launderers

15% OFF DRY CLEANING
Dry cleaning orders only. 1 coupon/customer. Present coupon with incoming order. Not valid with other offers. Expires September 30, 2006

30% OFF BLANKETS, BEDSPREADS, COMFORTERS
Present coupon with incoming order. Not valid with other offers. Expires September 30, 2006

MILTON SQUARE COMO AT CARTER / 644-8300
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday: 7am - 6pm Tuesday: 7am - 7pm, Saturday 8am - 3pm
Specializing in remodeling and renovation of older homes

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