HHH Job Corps Center celebrates 25 years in Como Park neighborhood

New building will honor George Latimer

by Dave Healy

It's been an anniversary season at the Job Corps lately. Last year marked the 50th anniversary of the federal Job Corps program, which began as part of Lyndon Johnson's War on Poverty. Locally, the Hubert H. Humphrey Job Corps Center, located in the Como Park neighborhood, will celebrate its 25th anniversary on September 27.

In 1981, the HHH Center was created on the former campus of Bethel College (now Bethel University), which by then had completed its move to Arden Hills. The center provides vocational education and training for individuals from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. It serves 350 to 400 students a year, who range in age from 16 to 24.

The September 27 event will include a dedication ceremony for the center's new cafeteria, which opened last November. It will be named in honor of George Latimer, former St. Paul mayor and an instrumental figure in establishing the HHH Job Corps Center.

"Without George Latimer's leadership, this center would not have opened here when it did," said David MacKenzie, the center's director.

"There was some opposition to the project back then, and it took a lot of political courage to speak in favor of it. Our responsibility has always been to live up to George Latimer's vision."

Building plans for the new cafeteria generated their own controversy when a proposal was first presented to the surrounding neighborhood in June 2002. The original plan called for two new buildings—a cafeteria and a child development center. Neighbors asked why vacant buildings couldn't be renovated rather than erecting new ones.

"We took those questions seriously," said MacKenzie. "The result was a decision to put up one new building instead of two, and to renovate an existing one for the child development center."

According to Dan Cherryhomes, director of administrative services, the HHH Center celebrated 25 years in the Como Park neighborhood.

"The Hubert H. Humphrey Job Corps Center opened a new cafeteria last November. Flags hanging from the ceiling represent nationalities of the center's students. On September 17, in connection with the 25th anniversary of the center, the building will be named in honor of George Latimer, former mayor of St. Paul, who was instrumental in establishing a Job Corps Center in the Como Park neighborhood."

Volunteering to keep a community strong

St. Anthony Park Block Nurse Program marks 25th anniversary

by Antoine Young

This month the St. Anthony Park Block Nurse Program will celebrate its 25th anniversary. The program provides a variety of services to assist the elderly through a network of volunteers.

For both volunteers and care receivers, the Block Nurse Program has fostered friendships and developed a stronger sense of community as it helps promote healthy, independent living.

St. Anthony Park resident Julia Loupe has been volunteering for Block Nurse for two years. She had just moved back to the neighborhood when she saw a notice in the Bugle saying that the program needed volunteers to work with local seniors.

"I thought that volunteering would be a good way to meet neighbors," Loupe said. "I wanted to be involved in the community, and I also thought it sounded like such a unique service. I think if people chip in and help their neighbors, it makes a neighborhood stronger."

Loupe, mother of a three- and-a-half-year-old and part-time human resources employee at Mississippi Market, devotes all of her volunteer efforts to Block Nurse. She is involved in a variety of the program's services: medical guiding, which helps a person get to and from medical appointments; visiting, wherein she spends time with a needy person when his or her caregiver has to leave home for any reason; and Meals on Wheels when they need a substitute. Loupe said, "I also wrapped Christmas presents for seniors. I've done Meals on Wheels when they need a substitute. There's really a whole variety of things to get involved with."

Loupe has also stepped in for Hayes on occasion, helping with volunteer coordination. She was recently appointed to the Fundraising Committee, which raises money from participating neighborhood restaurants and stores.

"Last year, Mary Hayes wanted to send a thank-you note to volunteers at Thanksgiving, and I helped get those cards out," Loupe said. "I also wrapped Christmas presents for seniors. I've done Meals on Wheels when they need a substitute. There's really a whole variety of things to get involved with."

The St. Anthony Park Block Nurse Program will take place Saturday, October 7, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Como Park Community Foundation.
Como Park

Effective October 1, the District 10 office is moving from 1556 Como Ave. to 1224 Lexington Pkwy., site of the Historic Street Car Museum. The council e-mail address and phone and fax numbers will remain the same.

“Slow Down for Children” signs are now available through District 10. A $5 donation is requested. Contact the council office: 644-3889 or district10@comopark.org.

Buckthorn “busts” are scheduled for October 7 and 28 from 9 a.m. to noon. Volunteers are needed to remove buckthorn in the Como Park woodlands between Lexington and Hamline avenues. Volunteers should wear gloves and meet at the Como Pool parking lot. Tools and refreshments will be provided.

District 10 has purchased three weed wrenches that citizens can use to remove buckthorn on their own property. Contact the office (district10@comopark.org or 644-3889) for details.

Experienced birders are needed for a baseline natural resources inventory of Como Park. Anyone interested in participating should contact Joan McKearnan: joan.mckearnan@comcast.net.

At its October 17 meeting, the District 10 Board will hold elections. Anyone 18 or older who lives, works or attends school in the Como area is eligible for board membership. Board terms are two years, and the average time commitment is four hours a month.

To indicate an interest in running for board membership, contact the District 10 office: 644-3889 or district10@comopark.org.

The 7 p.m. meeting will be held at the District 10 office, 1224 Lexington Pkwy.

Lauderdale

The annual Halloween party will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. on October 31 at City Hall, 1891 Walnut St. The event will include games, candy and other refreshments. Donations of candy or cash are welcome.

St. Anthony Park

At its October 12 meeting, the District 12 Council will discuss amending its bylaws to change the quorum requirement at board meetings from one-third to one-half of voting members.

St. Paul

The League of Women Voters has created an eight-minute video, “Voting Made Easy: An Introduction to Voter Registration and Elections in Minnesota.”

Posters and handouts are also available to supplement the video, which is presented in English with comments in Hmong, Spanish and Somali.

Any group or organization interested in showing this video should contact Sandi Lutz at 604-5176 or maxine@visi.com.

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St. Anthony Park Elementary gears up for November School District referendum

by Lisa Steinmann

On November 7, in addition to state offices, St. Paul residents will vote on a request from the St. Paul School District to renew in 2002 levy, which would raise $13.5 million over the next six years and would increase the average home or business owner’s annual property tax by about $87.

The St. Paul School District serves more than 41,000 students at 290 sites staffed by 6,500 professionals.

According to district sources, failure of the referendum would result in over $10 million in cuts to schools. That translates to more than 130 teachers across the district and an average increase in class size of two students.

“I have a lot of questions,” said Marty Wolf, who has three children in St. Paul schools, the youngest at St. Anthony Park.

He said he would like to know more about the referendum and how the money raised will make a difference. But in the end, he said, “I will always come down in favor of public education.”

Spending decisions within many individual schools are made by site councils. At St. Anthony Park Elementary, the site council consists of principal Andrea Dahms, seven elected parent members, five staff members and a community representative, currently Rosie Foreman, head librarian at St. Anthony Park Library.

Jay Schrader, parent of two children in St. Paul public schools, has been a member of the site council for four years and is serving his second year as co-chair.

“I have learned a lot about the behind-the-scenes challenges that our teachers and professional staff face every day,” he said.

Those challenges have included making difficult adjustments over the past five years as funding from state and federal sources has diminished, Schrader said. He added that the school has struggled to keep the cuts out of the classroom.

For example, a year ago the site council made the difficult decision to cut the school librarian.

To allow children to continue using the library, teachers received training in using the library computer system, and parents volunteered to come in daily to shelve books.

Schrader said that volunteer parents and community members put in hundreds of hours and take care of dozens of tasks that keep the school program running smoothly. They help in the classroom and with publishing the school literary journal and running the student council.

The St. Anthony Park School Association (SAPSA) raises over $7,000 a year to fund field trips and other special events.

According to Schrader, the site council has trimmed as much as possible.

“If we lose money, it will impact the number of teachers and the class size,” he said.

“There’s no place else to find money.”

He said the 2002 levy has mainly been used to pay for teachers and keep elementary school class sizes near 22.

The site council has been concerned about declining enrollment, a district-wide trend. However, enrollment this fall at the school is 66 more than predicted. Funding for all public schools is on a per-pupil basis.

Schrader said that St. Anthony Park Elementary strives to maintain a healthy enrollment by publicizing itself as “a strong school that produces successful children.”

The school offers both all-day and half-day kindergarten. Its standardized test scores, said Schrader, rank high in the district.

Declining district-wide enrollment, coupled with more students who qualify for special education services, have pinched all St. Paul public schools, Schrader said.

He praised the staff, parents and volunteers at St. Anthony Park Elementary for keeping the school strong and successful.

For example, Schrader said, the school found a way to fund all-day kindergarten this year, while many other schools are hoping the referendum money will help them offer it in the future. St. Anthony Park Elementary also managed to add specialists in science, vocal music and physical education.

Schrader said that an extended referendum would barely enable schools to keep up with inflation and to fund programs across the district for students with special needs.

In St. Paul public schools, 38 percent of students are English language learners, 65 percent are eligible for free or reduced lunch and 15 percent qualify for special education.

Dan Krivit, a member of St. Anthony Park Elementary’s ad hoc Government Affairs Committee, said, “The referendum is a temporary solution. We recognize that ultimately the legislature needs to address the K–12 funding package.”

This month, to help inform community members before they enter the voting booth on November 7, SAPSA and the St. Anthony Park Elementary site council will co-sponsor a forum on school financing.


The forum will take place October 17, from 7 to 8:30 p.m., in the school library. St. Anthony Park Elementary is located at 2180 Knapp St. For more information, call the school at 293-8735 or visit their Web site: www.stanthony.pps.org.

The lead story of this issue is on the back page.

OCTOBER 2006 ■ PARK BUGLE 3
1981 featured some auspicious debuts. Dan Rather began his tenure as anchor of the “CBS Evening News.” “Nightline with Ted Koppel” premiered on ABC. Sandra Day O’Connor was confirmed as the first female justice of the Supreme Court. The space shuttle Columbia completed its first flight. Twenty-five years later, those debuts have been replaced. But organizing information isn’t the only service news aggregators provide. They also give visibility to local publications that otherwise might not be known outside their own distribution area.

That’s a major purpose of the Twin Cities Daily Planet (www.tcwastoday.net), a community newsweekly and syndication service. According to Craig Cox, one of TCDP’s originators and currently in managing editor, the newspaper “wanted to give the neighborhood press more exposure.” They invited all the Twin Cities weekly and monthly newspapers to become media partners. So far, about 40 publications have joined, including the Park Bugle. Media partners agree to make their online content available to TCDP, which in turn provides links to a partner’s Web site. For example, someone could have read last month Bugle article about Raymond Avenue traffic calming by looking at the printed version of the paper, or by going to the Bugle’s Web site (www.parkbugle.org) or by finding the story on the TCDP.

But increasing access and visibility is TCDP’s only purpose. The Daily Planet is a project of the Twin Cities Media Alliance, a nonprofit organization that aims to nurture participatory democracy by strengthening citizen participation in news gathering, reporting and dissemination.

To that end, the alliance strives to develop “citizen journalists” to supplement the work of professional news people. By offering workshops, hosting public forums and organizing networking opportunities for professionals and engaged citizens, the alliance hopes to open up the media to greater participation.

For example, on September 16, the alliance presented a free public forum, “Citizens and the Future of the News.” The event featured a conversation between media critic and NYU professor Mark Crispin Miller and Liz Winstead, co-creator of Comedy Central’s “The Daily Show.” Also on the schedule was a panel discussion with representatives from the Pioneer Press, StarTribune, Minnesota Public Radio and a variety of local news outlets.

Cox sees efforts like the Twin Cities Media Alliance as a counterbalance to the segmentation that increasingly characterizes today’s information.

Extra, extra, read all about it: Bugle joins Twin Cities Media Alliance

by Dave Healy

The newspaper business ain’t what it used to be. Indeed, even the term “newspaper” is outdated, since people who publish the news are no longer limited to paper and ink. While most people reading these words are probably holding a piece of newsprint, some are looking at a computer screen.

Every day there are more ways to get the news. Twin Cities residents have long enjoyed more than one daily newspaper to choose from, and now that any major paper can be accessed online, readers all over the world have the same luxury.

Yet most of these outlets are still staffed by people with a direct connection. They depend on a wide-spread recognition that a pluralistic society prospers when each of its members prosper, and that those members are connected in ways that might not be immediately visible.

One way of describing that connectedness is “interdependence.” Organizations like the Job Corps and Block Nurse have the laudable but challenging task of promoting independence while acknowledging interdependence.

If you graduate from a Job Corps Center, you’ll be more likely to get a job and be able to take care of yourself. If you receive Block Nurse services, you’ll be better able to stay in your own home and less likely to become more of a burden to friends and family or friends can provide. At a Job Corps Center, that assistance comes in the form of vocational education and training for young people who would otherwise be unable to afford it. In the case of a Block Nurse Program, assistance might be a ride to a doctor’s appointment for someone without access to transportation.

Each of these programs is based on certain assumptions about what benefits a society. The Job Corps assumes that society is well-served by a trained work force. Block Nurse assumes that a society benefits when individuals are able to continue living as independently as possible while they age. Support for these services will reflect the extent to which the society as a whole shares such assumptions.

But it’s one thing to share assumptions; it’s another thing to provide tangible support for a particular service. How does one decide which organization to support?

Often that decision is based on personal experience. A successful Job Corps graduate is perhaps more likely to affirm that organization than is someone whose job training came by another route. Someone whose elderly parents have received Block Nurse services may be more likely to write a check for the organization’s annual fund drive than would someone whose parents are fully independent.

But most social services would wither if they were supported only by personal contributions. They depend on a widespread recognition that a pluralistic society prospers when each of its members prosper, and that those members are connected in ways that might not be immediately visible.

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Amercia’s founders famously declared the nation’s independence. We would do well to remember John Donne’s declaration, written a century and a half earlier, that none of us is an island, entire unto ourselves. We’re all in this together.

services at the HHJ Job Corps Center, plans are proceeding to open the child development center soon in cooperation with Head Start, which will oversee its operation. It will provide child care for nonresidential students, and is equipped to handle about 20 children.

“Welfare-to-work legislation has been hard on single parents,” said MacKenzie. “We’re pleased that our facility will make it easier for some of our students to find accessible and affordable child care.”

The child development center is located on the first floor of what had been the Hagstrom Dormitory when Bethel owned the campus. The entire building has been renovated, which means the upper two floors could eventually be used to house student parents. MacKenzie said.

The HHJ Center is one of 122 Job Corps centers in the United States. The national Job Corps publishes annual rankings for all of its centers. According to MacKenzie, the HHJ Center consistently ranks in the top 10. In 2005, they ranked seventh nationally.

“One of the ranking categories is job placement,” said MacKenzie. “We’ve always done well there. About 95 percent of our graduates get jobs.”

Since 1993, a Neighborhood Advisory Committee, consisting of neighborhood residents and student parents and employees, has met monthly. A recent topic of discussion for the committee has been the future of the former tennis courts, located on the corner of Arlington and Arona, across the street from the main campus.

MacKenzie said that the Job Corps hopes to convert that area to green space, and has applied for a grant from Ramsey County to finance the project.
The St. Anthony Park Community Foundation recently announced the formation of three new designated funds. St. Anthony Park Elementary School and Murray Junior High School now have funds established by donations from area residents. The third fund, the McKay Family Music Endowment Fund, was established by the family of Gerald and Mary McKay in honor of their years of service to St. Anthony Park.

Gerald McKay was a founding member of many neighborhood institutions, including the St. Anthony Park Association, the Park Bugle, the St. Anthony Park Community Band and the St. Anthony Park Community Foundation. Mary McKay worked at the elementary school for several years and was an equal partner in the McKay’s love of St. Anthony Park.

Gerald also has an abiding interest, and a long history of involvement, in bands throughout Minnesota, especially at the University of Minnesota, where he played in the band as an undergraduate and after graduation helped found the Alumni Band.

His love of band music led to establishing a fund to ensure that the Community Band and band music at local schools would never falter for lack of financial support. In partnership with his five children, McKay created an endowed fund to provide permanent annual grants to the music community.

The funds created for the schools are not presently endowed, but that option is being considered, according to Foundation Executive Director Jon Schumacher.

“We’ve worked closely with our neighborhood schools to support their annual needs and keep them competitive,” he said. “We are currently talking to parents and other school supporters to see if there’s an interest in establishing endowed funds. Providing permanent support to these key institutions that are at the mercy of fluctuating federal, state and local budgeting would allow them to maintain consistent, high-quality programs and staffing. Their success makes our community stronger.”

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Foundation creates new designated funds
by Dave Healy

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Loupe said that the best part of volunteering for Block Nurse is the friendships she has made. “What it has allowed me to do is meet some neighbors that I probably wouldn’t have had the chance to meet otherwise. Because I spend one-on-one time with them, either in their homes or driving them to medical appointments, it’s on a personal level. I have to say that the people I’ve met have given me much more than I have them. Their life stories are fascinating. I’ve really become close friends with those I see more often.”

Richard Hey and his wife, Miriam, use Block Nurse care services. Hey said he can’t think of a single way in which Block Nurse hasn’t been “a real godsend” to him and his wife. “It’s a remarkable program,” he added. Hey joined after he was in danger of missing an important appointment due to lack of a ride. “I was frantic,” he said. “I couldn’t figure out how I could get down there. Someone told me, ‘Try Block Nurse,’ which I did. They were so sympathetic and understanding, and so quick with finding a volunteer to drive me to my appointment, that I thought I’d died and gone to heaven.”

Hey has been using Block Nurse volunteers for a year and a half to reach medical appointments. “For the first time in my life I have numerous medical appointments, and this service has been a lifesaver,” he said. “They are always so understanding; I feel like I’ve had a ride with a friend.”

Hey added that he and his wife sometimes try to get appointments at the same time, to make things easier for a volunteer. “Block Nurse would say, ‘No, do what you need to do.’ I once told Mary Hayes that I’m sorry to require so much, and she said that they exist to help people live more independently. They assure me they stand ready to be of any help they can be.”

Ruth Neubeck, who also receives care from Block Nurse, sings the praises of Mary Hayes. “She is so good at what she does,” Neubeck said.

Neubeck said she likes the neighborhood involvement the program fosters. “It’s all neighbors who volunteer. Some we know and some we don’t. Once we asked for a volunteer, and our neighbor from across the street arrived.”

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Because of community members like Loupe, Neubeck and the Heys, not to mention the efforts of Mary Hayes and the many other hard workers who make Block Nurse possible, the program is 25 years strong. It seems safe to say that the St. Anthony Park community will be supporting the Block Nurse program for many years to come.

“I’m very happy that I can make a contribution to it,” Loupe said. “And I’m happy to see that the program is going strong.”

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My son, Drew, and I went north last January to find some owls. We did find a few owls, but for me one of the highlights of the trip was finding a bush full of northern shrikes, also called “butcher birds.”

One more thing I didn’t expect to experience, but which I did, was a lesson in humility.

We went to the Sax-Zim bog, 35 miles northeast of Duluth, named for two of the tiny towns that border the bog. They’re not really even towns, more like a few houses around a bar, gas station or café.

A bog is a generally flat area composed mostly of sphagnum moss, sprigs to the foot in summer but frozen solid in winter. Bogs support a variety of sedges, as well as spruce and tamarack trees. Most of the birdwatching is done from the roadway.

The Sax-Zim bog is a broad area, about 250 square miles, that provides a wintering habitat favored by great gray and northern hawk owls. These owls are not very common in the rest of the United States, and so the bog draws birdwatchers from all over the country.

Several guides lead tours of the Sax-Zim bog during the winter to help birders add these owl species to their life lists.

We found a few owls, but for last January to find some owls. We did find a few owls, but for

He said they hadn’t seen any owls yet and asked if we’d seen any. He had some folks from Tennessee in his car.

After he left, again at high speed (“Gotta deliver owls to my customers!”), I noticed a shrike in a bush on the other side of the road.

A shrike is about the size of a slender robin, mostly gray with distinctive black and white markings on its wings and tail. Plus, it has a very distinctive black mask that starts at the beak and extends beyond where the ear would be.

Shrikes are usually loners, hunting from a high, prominent perch, but as we watched, two more shrikes appeared in the same bush. I’d seen a shrike in the winter at the Harriet Alexander Nature Center in Roseville, but had never seen more than one shrike in a bush at a time, let alone three in one place.

And one of them was doing what I call “bush-whacking,” beating its wings around the base of the bush as if to flush a mouse or a vole. Since it was the dead of winter, they must have been competing for warm-blooded prey. No self-respecting insect would be caught dead in northern Minnesota in January.

Shrikes are often spotted in flight by their habit of swooping over the winter fields as snow buntings fly in large flocks, about the size of a large sparrow, unlike shrikes. Black and white and distinctive black and white markings on its wings and tail. Plus, it has a very distinctive black mask that starts at the beak and extends beyond where the ear would be.

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Shrikes are usually loners, hunting from a high, prominent perch, but as we watched, two more shrikes appeared in the same bush. I’d seen a shrike in the winter at the Harriet Alexander Nature Center in Roseville, but had never seen more than one shrike in a bush at a time, let alone three in one place.

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They’re not really even towns, more like a few houses around a bar, gas station or café.

Drew saw his first snow bunting, like a small sparrow with a red cap and black chin. It was sitting in the road. As we stopped to look at it, one of the owl tour guides came nearing up and nearly hit the redpoll. He said they hadn’t seen any owls yet and asked if we’d seen any. He had some folks from Tennessee in his car.

As we drove the back roads around and through the bog, we saw a lot of interesting birds. We saw a common redpoll, a small sparrow with a red cap and black chin. It was sitting in the road. As we stopped to look at it, one of the owl tour guides came nearing up and nearly hit the redpoll. He said they hadn’t seen any owls yet and asked if we’d seen any. He had some folks from Tennessee in his car.

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Home Tour from 1

All the houses on the tour represent individual responses to the challenge of shaping area residences to the architectural demands of 21st-century living, while retaining the traditional features that attracted their owners to them in the first place.

For Thompson, the progress of her years-long restoration project seemed coupled to natural disasters. A few years after the collapse of the chimney, the house suffered serious hail damage.

“That allowed me to restore the colors and the profile of the outside of the house,” she says, “I removed the vinyl siding.”

In its current state, Thompson’s Bayless Avenue residence features original interior spindle woodwork, a restored front porch, lush landscaping that was the project of her late husband, and a beautiful exterior color scheme in five subtle shades of tan, cream and Wedgewood blue.

If the Thompsons’ restoration project began as a result of a long-departed owner’s decades of negligence, the Gray family over in north St. Anthony Park faced a more delicate problem.

When Billie and Terry Gray bought their beautifully maintained 1887 residence on Commonwealth Avenue, the previous owners hadn’t disassembled into a haze of memory. In fact, they were living next door.

“Turd and Dennis Ormseth sold the family home a couple of years ago, after their architect son designed a modern barrel-vaulted residence for them on an adjoining lot. Both houses will be on the home tour this year.”

Billie Gray says that having the previous owners living next door has given her family something to live up to.

Although she stresses the generosity and helpfulness of her neighbors, she says, “I feel responsible to the Ormseths. Are we keeping the yard up the way we should?”

Knowing something of the history of her house, a single-story dwelling that she describes as “an amalgamation of Tudor, Queen Anne and Victorian but more relaxed and casual,” has given Gray a sense of stewardship.

“We’re caretakers of the house,” she says. “It’s a privilege to raise my children here.”

Gray adds that the best thing about her house is “It inspires you. I almost felt I was buying some ice cream, turn off the TV and sit on the porch.”

If the Grays see themselves as stewards of the past, Lisa Nicholson and her family faced the challenge of integrating the past and the future in the extensive addition they built on their 1912 arts-and-crafts-influenced home on Dowsell Avenue.

The Nicholsons bumped out the footprint of the house by 22 feet to create a three-story rear addition that runs the width of the house. They added two new bathrooms, a master bedroom suite, a new kitchen and an additional eating area.

Nicholson is especially proud of the new mudroom that was added at the back entrance to the home. With cabinetry and lockers carefully matched to the design elements of the original part of the house, she says, “It’s really pretty and functional.”

For Nicholson and her family, the building process involved some unexpected discoveries about the house they already lived in.

Because they wanted to match new light fixtures to the style of their existing home, they showed the originals to an expert, who told them that their fixtures are of Steuben glass, created by one of the original Tiffany art glass designers.

The three homeowners have different reasons for opening their homes to the public in October. Nicholson will participate as a way of supporting the St. Anthony Park Community Council, on which she sits as a business member. She’s the owner of a local salsa manufacturer, Salsa Lisa.

Gray appreciates the opportunity to give back to her community. “I have attended the home tours in the past,” she says, “and I so appreciate people opening their homes.”

As for Thompson, she has a more practical motive. She may want to connect with some potential buyers. A widow since 1999, she’s beginning to consider other housing options now that her children are almost grown up.

Of her house, she says, “It’s so much work for a single mom. It’s a unique and special place, and I may sell it.”

Advance tickets for the St. Anthony Park Home Tour are available at local businesses for $12 ($10 for seniors). Tickets will also be sold on the day of the tour for $15 (seniors $12) at the St. Anthony Park Library. Proceeds from the tour will benefit the St. Anthony Park Community Council.
No bones about it
by Kristi Curry Rogers

Autumn is upon us, No Bones readers. I can’t believe how quickly this amazing summer flew by.

When you last heard from me, I was in Montana with my husband, Ray, and my daughter, Lucy, in search of new dinosaur sites.

Well, guess what? We found some! We are so excited to get back out there next summer and explore in more detail the new field areas that we identified this year.

We spent over a week in the “Missouri Breaks” of central Montana — thousands of acres of crazily steep, treacherous badlands that preserve fossils of dinosaurs and their contemporaries.

We’ve spent at least a little time during each of the last five summers in that area collecting small, resilient fossils that we call “microfossils.”

Microfossils aren’t really microscopic at all. The tooth of a big meat-eating dinosaur, the thigh bone of a turtle or the scale of a garfish all might be called microfossils.

Sites that preserve microfossils are particularly interesting to us because they give us a little window into an ancient ecosystem. In microsites we find remains of lots of animals that inhabited the vicinity, all gathered together in death.

At Macalaster College, Ray is working with several students on the microscopic insides of the bones we found.

They are trying to figure out how these sites form, and how and where fossilization of the bones occurs, by using tools like the scanning electron microscope, and something called laser ablation, in which a laser scans a piece of bone to reveal the minerals that are preserving it.

So, the Breaks were great, and we found lots of awesome microfossils.

Then we went south. I have lots of experience digging up long-necked dinosaurs in the southwestern parts of Montana, and wanted to check out some new rocks in my old stomping grounds.

After work one evening, we were all relaxing near a creek while Ray tied his line at fly fishing. As he waded through the water to a prime fishing hole, he stepped over a rock that gave him pause.

Turned out that the rock in the creek contained a dinosaur bone! It was the thigh bone of a dinosaur that roamed on earth over 70 million years ago, and it prompted us to scour the nearby hills the next day for more.

We found a few more bones, enough to tell us that this place is worth surveying more carefully next year, with more bodies and more eyes on the ground of an area that has never been explored by other scientists.

All of this makes a lot of sense if you’ve been paying attention to dinosaur news in the last month. You might have heard about a paper that gives hope to paleontologists everywhere.

Steve Wang, of Swarthmore College, and Peter Dodson, of the University of Pennsylvania, did a statistical analysis of all the known dinosaurs. They found that only 527 dinosaurs have been found so far, but that there may be as many as 1844 dinosaur species to be found as fossils.

(There are lots of dinosaur species that probably were never lucky enough to make it into the fossil record at all, and these we’ll never be able to discover.)

If their statistical analysis is right, there are at least 1300 more dinosaur species left to be discovered. That’s great news for future paleontologists everywhere.

Even better news? Wang and Dodson speculate that 75 percent of these undiscovered dinosaurs will be found in the next 60 to 100 years, and 90 percent might be found in the next 100-140 years, if historical patterns of discovery can tell us anything.

We’ll make that 1299 species left. I think Ray, Lucy and I found at least one new dino this summer. We’ll know for sure by next year. Until next time, happy hunting!
City, residents discuss transportation study

by Dave Healy

Transportation was the topic at a September 21 community meeting hosted by the District 12 Community Council. On hand were three representatives from the city of St. Paul to discuss an upcoming transportation study the city is undertaking in the northwest quadrant, an area bounded by Larpenteur Avenue on the north, 1-94 on the south, Snelling Avenue on the east and the city limits on the west.

Bruce Beese, director of Public Works, said the purpose of the study is to assess all modes of transportation in the target area: cars, trucks, mass transit, bicycles and pedestrians. Public Works will create a task force to work with city staff. That group will include community organizations, neighborhood residents, and business and industry representatives. The study is expected to take 6-9 months.

Mike Klassen, a city project manager, mentioned several things that are driving the study: the emerging bioscience corridor, the new University of Minnesota football stadium and extensive housing development along University Avenue.

Most of the meeting was given over to questions from the 40 or so people in attendance.

“Have plans to extend Pierce Butler to the east increased pressure for an extension of Pierce Butler to the west?”

Maczko replied that although planners must consider the overall transportation picture, there is no direct correlation between plans on the east side and the west side of the city. He added that the study might reveal as much or more of a need for an additional north-south route through the area.

“What can be done to increase pedestrian traffic and use of mass transit, and decrease dependence on automobiles?”

Klassen said that Public Works can redesign streets, propose different lighting and make other recommendations, but “we don’t control funding.” Maczko added that the roads being built today are much different from what was constructed in the 1960s and 70s.

“What you see now is more accommodating for bicycles and pedestrians,” he said. But he also stressed that changing behavior is difficult. “Minnesotans are not used to walking very far,” he said. But he also stressed that changing behavior is difficult. “Minnesotans are not used to walking very far,” he said. But he also stressed that changing behavior is difficult. “Minnesotans are not used to walking very far,” he said. But he also stressed that changing behavior is difficult. “Minnesotans are not used to walking very far,” he said. But he also stressed that changing behavior is difficult. “Minnesotans are not used to walking very far,” he said. But he also stressed that changing behavior is difficult. “Minnesotans are not used to walking very far,” he said. But he also stressed that changing behavior is difficult. “Minnesotans are not used to walking very far,” he said. But he also stressed that changing behavior is difficult. “Minnesotans are not used to walking very far,” he said. But he also stressed that changing behavior is difficult. “Minnesotans are not used to walking very far,” he said. But he also stressed that changing behavior is difficult. “Minnesotans are not used to walking very far,” he said.

Joseph Spencer, a policy associate in the mayor’s office, said that a recent study found there are 250 acres of surface parking along University Avenue. He said that large parking lots create a barrier for anyone who is not in an automobile.

Klassen said that transportation accounts for up to one-third of the real estate in a large city. “Are you willing to say from the outset of the study that the community garden in south St. Anthony Park is off limits for a new roadway?”

“I don’t think so,” said Maczko. “It’s not a good idea to limit options before you even get started.”

Maczko also stressed that putting an idea out for discussion doesn’t mean that his department has a master plan.
Journalists debate the future of the news

by Dave Healy

On September 16 at Hamline University’s Sundin Hall, the Twin Cities Media Alliance, publishers of the Twin Cities Daily Planet, presented a public forum, “Citizens and the Future of News.” The event explored the dynamics of citizen journalism through three panels representing both national and local media.

The discussion began with a conversation between Liz Winstead, a founder of Air America Radio and co-creator of Comedy Central’s “The Daily Show,” and Mark Crispin Miller, author and professor of media ecology at New York University, where he oversees the Project on Media Ownership. Their talk was moderated by John Forde, executive producer and host of public television’s “Mental Engineering.”

Miller and Winstead spent much of their time discussing television journalism, chattering in practitioners for a lack of investigative reporting. They attributed this largely to the influence of advertisers and corporate ownership of major media outlets.

Miller invoked the period around the turn of the 20th century as the heyday of investigative journalism. He contrasted the “muckrakers” of that era, when newspaper revenue was based mostly on subscriptions, with contemporary journalists’ dependence on advertising money. He charged that too many media outlets sold the news in deference to perceived corporate interests.

Asked to predict how the news business will fare in the years ahead, Miller expressed pessimism. “I think things are going to be very bad,” he said, “unless the American people start to demand more from the people who give us the news.” He also indicated the recent climate of political climate, claiming that the influence of money on the electoral process has compromised the reliability of what passes for news.

Miller lamented journalism’s lip service to “objectivity,” which he said too often means a knee-jerk adherence to presenting two sides of an issue — even if there aren’t really two legitimate positions. He asked, “Why should a story on the Holocaust have to include the ‘position’ of a Holocaust denier?”

Winstead was more sanguine about the future of news, pointing to the Internet as a way for ordinary citizens to inform themselves. “If the professional media don’t do their jobs, we can take things into our own hands,” she said.

The second panel, moderated by Marco Fernandez Londoni, editorial director for LCN Media, consisted of five representatives from Twin Cities mainstream media: Dave Beal, retired columnist and business editor at the Pioneer Press; Thom Fladung, editor of the Pioneer Press; Jeff Kraker, manager of the AVID Unity system at Kare; Kate Parry, reader’s representative at the Star Tribune; and Bill Wareham, deputy news director for Minnesota Public Radio.

Panelists acknowledged the challenge of delivering the news to an increasingly diverse Twin Cities community. Parry distinguished between trying to “represent” historically underrepresented populations versus giving them a voice. She pointed to the St. Paul’s attempts to improve staff’s sensitivity to cultural diversity while also attempting to diversify its newsroom. But she acknowledged the unfair tendency to let one minority staff member speak for an entire ethnic community.

Fladung, who was managing editor of the Detroit Free Press before he came to St. Paul, tactfully suggested that while the Twin Cities is indeed becoming more diverse, the region is still relatively homogeneous compared to many other major metropolitan areas.

The third session, “Citizens and Community-Based Media,” featured Ann Aiquist, news director at KFAI Radio; Abdi Ayne, writer and editor of Hiiraaan Online; Anne Brenn of Northfieldian; Ramon Hough, co-host of the Filipino-American national news on KFAI Mike Waseenaar, executive director at Saint Paul Neighborhood Network; and Tracey Williams, president and CEO of the Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder newspaper.

Recently the TCDP received one of seven 2006 Knight-Batten Awards for Innovation in Journalism. The awards are administered by the Institute for Interactive Journalism at the University of Maryland, and were created to honor news organizations that have developed innovative ways to connect people to the news.

Several panelists talked about the difficulty of language barriers in disseminating the news. Ayne noted that his Web site, which publishes both English and Somali content, has largely been attracting more English-speaking Somali Americans. He’s responded by devoting an increasing percentage of the site’s content to English, but he doesn’t want Somali-speaking users to be left out.

Williams, whose paper serves a primarily African-American audience, said that while language isn’t an issue with the paper, readers’ access to alternative sources of information through the Internet is. Aiquist lamented the underpreparedness and naiveté of many would-be interns at KFAI.

Waseenaar echoed her sentiments, alleging that too many young people contemplating a career in television or radio news want to become “personalisers” rather than journalists.

An audience member, noting the predominantly negative tone of the morning’s proceedings, asked whether journalism should even be considered a career worth aspiring to. Waseenaar urged her not to be pessimistic.

Acknowledging the difficulty of breaking into the news business, he said that journalism continues to be a job where people have a chance to make the world a better place.

Media Alliance from 4 marketplace.

“More and more, people direct their attention to areas they’re already interested in,” he says. “The Internet is a great way to connect with people who share your interests. But what’s lost is the serendipity that can occur when you pick up a newspaper and read about something you’ve never heard of before.”
COMO AVENUE BUSINESSES

No more Gutterdump
by Judy Woodward

St. Anthony Park resident Jim Larson remembers the day he and his classmates walked down the hill to his brand-new school. He had begun his primary school years a few months earlier at the old Guttersen School — or Gutterdump, as it was less-than-fondly known to his fellow students — a dark, looming, Victorian building that had been originally constructed in 1887 and managed, through a combination of rickety floors and shadowy corridors, to strike fear into the heart of any small boy unfortunate enough to have to make a solitary trip to the cavernous restroom.

At Guttersen, the building was so drafty that the children wore parkas indoors in the winter, and the only place they could watch educational filmstrips was in the coal bin.

But that was all about to change. Halfway through the school year of 1953–54, the children moved to their new school, St. Anthony Park Elementary, at the eastern end of Langford Park.

“One day,” said Larson, “we took all our schoolbooks and carried them down the hill to the new school.” Children in the upper grades may have brought their chairs and desks with them, but for the youngest pupils like Larson, there were shiny new desks waiting for them.

The post–World War II baby boom had hit St. Anthony Park hard. The 1950s was the decade of the American family, and schools that had been considered adequate during the Depression era and the war years were no longer able to cope with a flood of incoming students.

In north St. Anthony Park, that meant Guttersen School, the fortress-like building that stood on Como Avenue, where the Methodist Church parking lot is today, was filled to the bursting point. In 1950, the school enrolled 460 students — at least 100 more than its official capacity. When average class size approached 40 pupils, the community’s calls for a new elementary school could no longer be ignored.

Controversy delayed the construction as the neighborhood debated whether to locate the new school at the Como and Hillside intersection or adjacent to Langford Park. Eventually, the Langford site prevailed, and a low-slung building emerged, filled with bright spaces and shiny vistas of tile and linoleum.

The era of dark wooden floors and dank restrooms had ended for the 1950s was the decade of the American family, and schools added to keep track of the hundreds of quarters that arrived at school daily.

In the 1970s, attendance lines for the district were drawn, and St. Anthony Park Elementary discovered that much of its student body was now bused to the site. The street in front of the school’s main entrance was torn up, and the playground was allowed to flow directly from the school to Langford Park. In 2002, the school added playground equipment at its end of the park.

Current school principal Andrea Dahms noted that more than 50 years of use have created new needs for the school building. Under her leadership, the school has added classrooms, improved drainage patterns, installed new ductwork, and redone the roof and floors. She has been a source of strong leadership.

Dining facilities and a hot lunch program were added at the end of the 1960s. The price of a school lunch was a quarter, and the preferred method of delivery was knotted in the corner of a handkerchief. School administrators found their workload had to expand to keep track of the hundreds of quarters that arrived at school daily.

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Current school principal Andrea Dahms noted that more than 50 years of use have created new needs for the school building. Under her leadership, the school has added classrooms, improved drainage patterns, installed new ductwork, and redone the roof and floors. She declined to talk about specific plans for the future, but she admitted that if enough money was available, it could be a new school building.

Whatever the changes, the ties between the community and the school have remained strong. “There is a loving history,” said Dahms, “of the school’s life as part of the community.”

Guttersen School, built in 1887, was located on Como Avenue, between Commonwealth Avenue and Hillside Avenue, and is the site of a parking lot owned by St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church. After years of overcrowded conditions, the school was demolished in 1953.

A taste of Palestine on Como Avenue
by Clay Christensen

The long, white, two-story building at the corner of Como and Raymond is over 100 years old. In the past, it has contained a plumber’s shop, lawyer’s office, grocery store, video rental shop and beauty parlor.

The building is now owned by Bishara Ailabouni and is the home of Abu Nader Deli and Grocery, owned and operated by Ailabouni and his wife, Izabelle. The southeast corner of the building houses Elle Salon, a hair salon.

Ailabouni said he’s doing as much business as he can these days.

There has been a beauty shop in the south section since 2002 it has been Elle Salon, owned and would have been great to have a Subway across the street.

Having a Subway restaurant, he noted, “is a business, they would look more clean and nice here and he expressed concern about the impatience of drivers.”

He said, “I think it’s great there is a Subway across the street, it’s a great addition to the community.”

Ailabouni expressed ambivalence about 4 station across the street. “First there was going to be zoning changes, then not,” he said.

He planned to take a vacation during the new restaurant, and have a Subway in the corner. Maybe they would look over here and have a Subway in the corner.

With the food court right across the street.

There has been a beauty shop in the south since 2002 it has been Elle Salon, owned and would have been great to have a Subway across the street.

“Really, you want to see what happens with the gas station across the street, it’s a huge competition.”

In 1917 as a boarding house for Swedish immigrants, a 71-bed nursing home, which was eventually the building was demolished in 1953.

Getting back to t
by Dave Healy

In 90 years, you see a few people come and go. The one at 2040 Como Ave. has seen more residents will move in.

The building that most people knew as the 1917 as a boarding house for Swedish immigrants, a 71-bed nursing home, which was eventually the provider of services for older adults.

On October 21, 2005, Ecumen closed the building was demolished in 1953.

That might have marked the end of a ne
This concludes the Bugle’s 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 being undertaken by the District 12 Community Council.
Kids Voting St. Paul makes plans for fall election

by Dave Healy

Kids Voting St. Paul, a six-year-old chapter of Kids Voting USA, hopes to have 20,000 students participate in the 2006 election. On November 7, students in grades K-6 can accompany their parents or teachers to one of 104 official polling places and cast their ballots at a Kids Voting booth. Participating middle, junior high and high school students can cast online ballots at a special Web site. Results will be tabulated and reported to the media.

Other election-related activities include a gubernatorial debate for students, a voting study guide and coloring books, and visits to schools by “spokeseagle.”

General Election

The debate will be held October 25 from noon to 1 p.m. at the Mall of America and will be attended by students from Kids Voting chapters across Minnesota.

General Eagle, an American eagle dressed in Colonial-era clothing, will visit elementary schools in the weeks prior to Election Day and talk about the election process and the importance of voting.

Kids Voting USA educates K-12 students about the U.S. electoral process and gives them an opportunity to vote in an election that closely replicates the official one. National studies have found a 3-5 percent increase in adult voter turnout in communities with Kids Voting programs.

In 2005, Kids Voting St. Paul received the national Founders Award for Community Spirit, presented by Kids Voting USA.

Kids Voting St. Paul is a publicly supported 501(c)(3) organization. Its partners and sponsors include St. Paul Travelers Foundation, the city of St. Paul, the Pioneer Press, the J-M Foundation, Ecolab, State Farm Insurance, U.S. Trust, Park Midway Bank, the Elmer L. Andersen Foundation and the St. Paul Public Schools.

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Don’t put your pet in a cold kennel! I will give them a warm, loving place to stay while you’re away on business, on vacation, or just for the day. I have over 30 years experience loving and 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 are considered inexpensive with great deals for long-term care. References available.

Call Jennifer at 612-729-6481

General Election talks to third-grade students at Webster Magnet School in St. Paul

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I lost my wheelbarrow. Last spring I went to load it with arms full of garden debris and, lo and behold, no wheelbarrow.

Did I lend it to someone? No recollection of such. So I shrug and wonder. It’s one of those small losses that predictably smack you in the cheek, like the pine branch in my back yard that needs to go but is big enough to constitute a wheelbarrow-full, so it remains.

There are other small losses. My peony, for example. I have more than one, but this beauty was within sight of my screened porch, almost as good as a vase of flowers on the redwood table.

Was it the winter that annihilated it? Or maybe not trimming away last summer’s dead stalks?

I’m not furious, just paralyzed, my mailbox having suffered two blows in recent months. First it was a pinch of the door, the result of what looked like an attack with a baseball bat. The door worked for a while until the remaining hinge fell off. I ordered a new mailbox at Park Hardware for $9.75.

Before I got around to putting up the new one, I came home to find the old mailbox leaning away from the street as if horribly taken aback, a deep crack at its base.

A neighbor told me he’d seen it happen. He watched as a snub-nosed school bus with a white roof turned around in the driveway across the street from my mailbox. He saw it back straight into the post, adjust out, and then back in again. That would account for the gold paint on the post. I should put up the new mailbox. Yet I’m stuck in a fit of paralysis. Is it worth it to make the effort? What might happen next?

My flagging faith in humanity seemed confirmed recently after I lost an earring. I thought it had fallen in the Cub Foods parking lot. I searched all around my car but didn’t find it.

But it’s not my earring I mourn. It’s my car’s shiny red wheel well, the one I noticed was crumpled by someone’s careless parking job. No note. No apology. No admission.

A friend said, “That happened to me twice this year already, and they left a note both times.” Hmm . . . two incidents and two confessors. Maybe my faith in humanity could be restored. Maybe there’s hope I’ll find my wheelbarrow after all.
Arts Events
The Czech Nonet will perform Sunday, October 22, at 4 p.m., as part of Music in the Park Series. The ensemble includes violin, viola, cello, bass, flute, clarinet, oboe, bassoon and French horn. The concert will feature works by Czech composers Martinu and Dvorak, as well as 17th-century Polish composer Witold Lutoslawski.

The concert will be at St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ, 2129 13th Avenue. For tickets, call 645-2315 or visit www.musicintheparkseries.org.

Mom's Day Out
The Garden Play Group, a preschool program for two- and three-year-olds, is now in session Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Falcon Heights United Church of Christ, 1795 Holton St. The teacher is Margee Fabyanske, a former Roseville teacher with 17 years of experience. Call 426-5353 for more information.

Mothers & More
The St. Paul chapter of Mothers & More will hold an open house on October 5 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Hamline Midway Library, 1558 Minnehaha Ave. Deserts and beverages will be served. Mothers & More is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of mothers through support, education, and advocacy. For more information, call 204-2107 or visit www.stpaulmothersandmore.org.

Garage Sale
YMCA Camps Widjiwagan and du Nord will hold their annual fall garage sale October 4–7 at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds Merchandise Mart. Admission is free from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, and 9 a.m. to noon for Saturday’s Bag Sale. Admission is $5 for early bird shopping on Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

More than 250 families contribute clothing, household items, toys, books, furniture, sports equipment and more. All proceeds go to the camps.

For more information, call 645-6605.

Cleovia Bazaar
The 23rd biennial Cleovia Bazaar will be held October 20 and 21 at the St. Paul Campus Student Center Ballroom, 2017 Buford Ave. Hours are 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Friday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday.

The sale will feature jams, jellies and pickles; hand-woven rugs; children’s gifts; and winter holiday handicrafts.

On Friday, a shuttle will run from the Randall Avenue parking lot on the east side of campus. On Saturday, campus parking will be available.

Walk-a-Thon
The Minnesota chapter of the American Parkinson’s Disease Association will hold its annual Walk-a-Thon on Saturday, September 30, at the Como Lakeside Pavilion. Registration will begin at 7:30 a.m. and the walk at 8:30 a.m.

Proceeds will go to support research on treatments and a cure for Parkinson’s disease. For more information or to register for the walk, call 612-863-5850.

Gardening
The St. Anthony Park Garden Club will meet at 7 p.m. on October 2 at the St. Anthony Park Library, John Gregor will talk about garden photography. The public is welcome.

Churches
St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church will continue its Fine Arts Series with three features in October.

A display of high-resolution reproductions (giclees) from the illuminated St. John’s Bible continues through October 8. From October 22 through November 19, photographs of the St. Croix River Valley will be exhibited.

On October 29, the Encore Wind Ensemble will present a children’s program.

Peace Lutheran Church in Lauderdale will hold a pasta dinner from 5 to 7 p.m. on October 28. The cost is $7 for adults and $3 for children 6–12. Children 5 and under are free. Arts, crafts and baked goods will be for sale.

The church will also sponsor a series beginning October 2 and continuing the first Monday of each month from 7 to 9 p.m.

The series is entitled “Faith and Creativity: A Recovery, Survival and Affirmation Group.” The discussion topic for October 2 will be chapter 12 (“Recovering a Sense of Faith”) from “The Artist’s Way,” by Julia Cameron.

For more information, call Pastor David Greenlund at 664-5840. Peace Lutheran Church is located at 1744 Walnut St., one block north of Larpenteur and two blocks west of Eustis, in Lauderdale.

Holy Childhood Parish will hold a rummage sale October 14 at Como Park Lutheran Church, 1376 Hoyt Ave. Handcrafted items and baked goods will be for sale from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., coffee and tea will be served from 1 to 3 p.m., and dinner will be served from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Cost is $7.50 for adults, $5 for children 4–12 and $3 for children under 4. The evening will benefit the Como Park Living at Home Block Nurse Program.

A fall bazaar and meatloaf dinner will take place October 14 at Como Park Lutheran Church. 1376 Hoyt Ave. Handcrafted items and baked goods will be for sale from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., coffee and tea will be served from 1 to 3 p.m., and dinner will be served from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Cost is $7.50 for adults, $5 for children 4–12 and $3 for children under 4. The evening will benefit the Como Park Living at Home Block Nurse Program.

Falcon Heights United Church of Christ will hold a fall festival and sustainability fair from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on October 15 on the church grounds, 1795 Holton St. The event will feature free refreshments, music, children’s activities, and consumer information on sustainable energy sources, farming, lawn care and more. For more information, call 646-2681.

On October 1 from 2 to 4 p.m., a coalition of seven Twin Cities churches will hold a public meeting entitled “Faith and Democracy: Renewing the Promise.” Sen. Ellen Anderson and Rep. Alice Hausman are among elected officials and candidates who will participate in the event, which will be held at St. Paul’s Catholic Church, 1775 Conway St. on St. Paul’s East Side.

The faith-based community organizing effort is one of seven meetings scheduled by ISAIAH throughout the area. It focuses on transportation, education, domestic violence and civil rights for immigrants.

For more information, call 612-333-1260 or e-mail isaiah@isaiah-mn.org.

Gibbs Museum
The Gibbs Museum of Pioneer & Dakota Life concludes its 2006 weekend events with three activities in October.


Weekend hours are noon to 4 p.m. Admission is $6.50 for adults, $5.50 for seniors and $3.75 for children. For more information, call 646-8629 or visit www.rcsh.com.

People
The St. Anthony Park Community Foundation welcomed four new board members at its annual meeting on September 26.

Mike Christensen is director of economic development for the city of Minneapolis. Ron French is a retired epidemiologist for the Minnesota Department of Health. Erica Schumacher is director of operations for Sced Capital Group. Ann Yetter has worked in publishing and marketing for Random House and the American Girl Company.

Officers for 2006–07 are Charlie Nauen, chairman; Carol Lukas, first vice-chairwoman; Jeff Blodgett, second vice-chairman; Jay Weiner, secretary; and Don Stryker, treasurer.

Josh Blue, a graduate of Como Senior High School, won NBC’s “Last Comic Standing” in August. Blue, who now lives in Denver, received $50,000 and a $5,000 prize for his stand-up routine.

James Ballentine, a Falcon Heights resident, has been selected as a 2006 Minnesota “Super Lawyer” by the magazine Minnesota Law & Politics. Ballentine, a member of the law firm Schwebel, Goetz & Sieben, graduated from William Mitchell College of Law in 1990. He is an adjunct instructor at William Mitchell, where he lectures occasionally on motion practice, wrongful death and personal injury.
Seventh graders at Murray Junior High took a field trip to Forts Folle Avoine near Danbury, Wisconsin, where they learned about what life was like in 1803. Forts Folle Avoine is a reconstructed Voyageur camp where students visit a trading post and Indian village staffed by historical interpreters.

Students from Madame Merchant’s French I classes and Mr. Sontomi’s and Mr. Chan’s American history classes went on the trip, which coincided with “Dągwaagin,” a fall rendezvous. Re-enactors showed students how to tan a hide, bead a leather dress and make a bow.

The first days of school at St. Anthony Park Elementary got off to a great start in September. Enrollment is healthy and the school has three all-day kindergarten and one half-day kindergarten classrooms. There was the familiar first-day-of-school excitement in the air as families dropped children off. Visitors were greeted with coffee donated by Dunn Bros. and doughnuts provided by the family science night, hosted by science teacher Jim Schrander, will be from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. October 17, First grade family science night, hosted by science teacher Jim Schrander, will be from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. October 17, SAPSA and the site council will co-sponsor a forum (7–8:30 p.m.) to discuss the St. Paul Public School referendum planned for the November 7 ballot. Sen. Ellen Anderson, Rep. Alice Hausman and a representative from the St. Paul Public School District are expected to participate. October 18: Early-release day. Students will be finished at 1:45 p.m. October 19–20: No school (statewide teacher meetings). October 23: No school (St. Paul teacher meetings). October 26–27: Scholastic Book Sale. October 27: Fall festival and silent auction (6–9 p.m.). There will be crafts, food, a bake sale and square dancing.

School pictures will be taken the week of October 9th at Como Park Elementary. Parents should be sure to check students’ backpacks for flyers. Students should arrive ready to smile for the cameras.

On October 19, students will be released at 12:35 p.m. There will be no school October 20, 23 and 24 due to statewide teachers’ meetings and district-wide professional development. October 25 is Family Literacy Day for students in grades 1–6.

Como Elementary’s Mark Thompson recently received Minnesota’s American Star of Teaching Award for his work with English-language learners. Thompson, who has been at the school since 2004, works with fifth- and sixth-graders. He came to Como as part of an effort by the St. Paul School District to prepare for a new influx of Hmong refugees from Thailand.

Thompson has created an English-Hmong dictionary. The volume, which also exists in voice form on the Internet (www2.saturn.stpaul.k12.mn.us/Hmong/sathmong.html), contains about 9,000 words.

At Chelsea Heights Elementary, Picture Day is October 6. October 18 is an early-release day, when school will be dismissed at 1 p.m.

As at other Minnesota elementary schools, there will be no school on October 19, 20 and 23 due to teachers’ meetings.
Managing the multiple responsibilities of our lives can be daunting as we age, especially for those of us with chronic illness. But we need to remember that a healthy life is a well-balanced life. We need to make room in our lives for fun.

There is evidence suggesting that laughter can be a means of healing. A positive attitude has also been demonstrated to influence health and healing. But often we get so caught up in managing our illness or disability that we forget one of the biggest stress busters we have is our sense of play.

Sometimes when we are no longer able to participate as actively in activities we used to enjoy, we don’t think to look for new ways to have fun. And there are so many.

When you visit the public library, be sure to look through their collection of DVDs and videotapes. I laughed myself silly the other night watching a DVD of the old Dick Van Dyke Show.

Stop by a park where a children’s sporting event is taking place, and just sit and watch. Their energy and enthusiasm are contagious, and I’ve never seen a kid’s game that didn’t have a few funny moments.

Do you have a favorite comic strip from the old days? There are collections of such gems as Krazy Kat and Calvin & Hobbes that can be a great way to have a chuckle at the end of your day.

Hobbies can be fun and rewarding, and you can take up a new one at any time. I know a woman whose arthritis makes it difficult for her to embroider and crochet as she used to, so she recently signed up for a digital photography class. Now she has a new way to make pictures.

Change is an inevitable part of our lives. Adapting successfully to change is how some people live happily, while those who can’t make the adjustment tend to be discontented.

But if we don’t make it a priority in our lives to find new ways to enjoy life when former activities no longer fit our lifestyle, we’re likely to miss out on much of what makes life enjoyable.

Part of the art of having fun is the ability to count one’s blessings. If we can see the glass as half full instead of half empty as we go through the processes of aging and illness, we’re halfway there. If I can’t do what I enjoyed yesterday, I can learn to enjoy myself in a new way tomorrow. But I’m unlikely to find that path unless I’m looking for it.

And speaking of plans to have fun, don’t forget to join the St. Anthony Park Block Nurse Program at our upcoming 25th Anniversary Celebration at the St. Anthony Park Library on October 2. We’ll have old-time and folk music, refreshments from Speedy Market, door prizes, and a great bunch of neighbors and friends — and we plan on having FUN!

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.

18 Years Experience! Call 651-490-7617 for Your FREE ESTIMATE
Readings
Tuesday, Oct. 17, 7 p.m.
Micawber’s. Tina Cassidy
(“Birth”).

Thursday, Oct. 19, 7 p.m.
Micawber’s. Alex Lemon
(“Mosquito”).

Thursday, Oct. 26, 7 p.m.
Micawber’s. Peter Barnes
(“Capitalism 3.0: A Guide to Reclaiming the Commons”).

Sunday, Oct. 29, 2 p.m.
Micawber’s. Lauren Poetry Collective members Eileen O’Toole
(“Excerpts from Girl”) and Deborah Keenan
(“Kingdoms”).

Groups
Wednesday, Oct. 4, 6:30 p.m.
St. Anthony Park Library.
St. Anthony Park Writers Group. All welcome.

Monday, Oct. 9, 7 p.m.
Micawber’s. Probers’ Book Group. Discussion continues on “Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed,” by Jared Diamond. Read chapter 2 on Easter Island and chapter 3 on Pitcairn and Henderson islands. All welcome.

Wednesday, Oct. 11, 7 p.m.

Book Festival
Saturday, October 14, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Rain Taxi’s sixth annual Twin Cities Book Festival. Minneapolis Community & Technical College. Readings, celebrity spelling bee, used book sale, Lemony Snicket party.

Library News
Tuesday, October 10, 4-6 p.m.
Open house for Melanie Huggins, new St. Paul Public Library director. Huggins is soliciting input from St. Paul neighborhoods as the city works through a budget shortfall. Libraries throughout the Twin Cities are offering a limited number of free passes to 17 local museums. Each pass allows up to four people to be admitted. Details on the Museum Adventure Pass are available at the St. Anthony Park Library.

Join us on October 19th as we celebrate the launch of poet Alex Lemon’s book Mosquito

A great new voice in Minnesota writing and poetry

Wordly Wiste

AMERICAN LIFE IN POETRY

Li-Young Lee, who lives in Chicago, evokes by the use of carefully chosen images a culture, a time of day, and the understanding of love through the quiet observation of gesture.

Early in the Morning

While the long grain is softening in the water, gurgling over a low stove flame, before the salted Winter Vegetable is sliced for breakfast, before the birds, my mother glides an ivory comb through her hair, heavy and black as calligrapher’s ink.

She sits at the foot of the bed. My father watches, listens for the music of comb against hair.

My mother combs, pulls her hair back tight, rolls it around two fingers, pins it in a bun to the back of her head. For half a hundred years she has done this. My father likes to see it like this. He says it is kempt.

But I know it is because of the way my mother’s hair falls when he pulls the pins out. Easily, like the curtains when they untie them in the evening.


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.
October 2006

Music

Coffee Grounds
1579 Hamline Ave.
644-9959, 645-2600

Real Book Jazz
Every Monday, 7:30pm
Open mic with Bill Hammond
October 1, 6pm
BLT (Blakst, Lurid, Tedd), Tom
October 6, 8pm
Carol Joan and the Blue Gills
October 7, 8pm
Rainer Music Showcase with Bill Cagley
October 12, 7pm
The Egg Men
October 13, 8pm
Open mic with Bill Hammond
October 15, 6pm
Duke Addicks: Native American Storytelling and Music
October 19, 7pm
Deb Carlson, John Whitehead: The Recliners
October 20, 8pm
Bronwen Williams
October 21, 8pm
Rachel Nelson
October 27, 8pm
Eric Addington
October 28, 8pm

Goldstein Museum of Design
240 McNeal Hall
1985 University Ave.
612-624-7434
American Fashion Transformed:
Four Master Designers
Through January 7, 2007

St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church
2325 Como Ave., 645-0371
Calders from the St. John’s Bible
Through October 8
Photographs of the St. Croix River Valley by Jim Wiese
October 22-November 19

St. Paul Student Center
University of Minnesota
612-625-0214
Paintings, Ceramics and
Assemblages
Works by artists from the Midwest:
Ken Hoffman, Martha Kauppi,
J.R. Kabot
Through October 5

Visual Arts

Anodyne Artist Company
825 Capitol St., 642-1684
Art...what is it?
Each third Thursday
5:30pm
Performance starts 7:30pm

St. Anthony Park Fall Festival
Saturday October 7th 10am - 5pm

Free horse-drawn carriage rides 1-5 pm
Bag Pipers starting at 10 am
Musical Entertainment by the Moldy Figs and others
Food and Beverage Vendors
Neighborhood Artisans
Kids activities including pumpkin painting contest and treasure hunt

Wine tasting and sale from 2pm - 5pm in the Milton Square Courtyard
sponsored by The Little Wine Shoppe. Donations and proceeds from the wine tasting and sale to benefit local non-profits with this year's recipient being the St. Anthony Park Community Foundation. Hors d'oeuvres by Muffuletta Cafe.

For additional information please contact Jeff @ 651-645-5178 or Mary Ann @ 651-644-5113.
## October Calendar

### 2 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.
- Chair exercise classes at Seid Hi-Rise. 825 So. St. every Monday and Tuesday 12:30 p.m. These classes are free to all area seniors, but pre-registration is necessary. Call 642-9052 to pre-register.
- Como Park recycling. Every Monday.
- Lauderdale recycling.

### 3 Tuesday
- SAP Garden Club meeting, St. Anthony Park Library, 7 p.m.
- 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 from 9:30 a.m. to noon through October.
- Ten Ten (for 5-year-olds and younger), South St. Anthony Rec Center (298-5765), 10 a.m.-noon. Every Thursday.
- Chair exercise classes at Seid Hi-Rise. 825 So. St. every Monday and Tuesday 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 Local Food Committee, South St. Anthony Rec Center, 890 Cromwell, 6 p.m.

### 6 Friday
- Spirit United Church (7204 Como Ave. SE) presents the film "Born Into Brothels" at 7 p.m.
- "Arts with Leaves" at the Lauderdale Park Rec Center, 5-6:30 p.m. Free. Ages 11-14.
- "Storytime for preschoolers ages 3-5," St. Anthony Park Library, 10:30 a.m. Registration required. 642-0411. Every Friday in October.
- Senior Citizen Fun Group (gym, bowling, and dance), South St. Anthony Rec Center, 890 Cromwell, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Every Friday.
- Falcon Heights recycling.

### 7 Saturday
- 19th Annual St. Anthony Park Fall Festival, Como & Cambridge at Millstone U.S. Forest Service, 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the Milton Square Courtyard. Proceeds to benefit the St. Anthony Park Community Foundation. Sponsored by The Little Wine Shoppe with hors d'oeuvres provided by Millhoma's Café. Must be 21 years of age or older to attend.
- Customer Appreciation Book Sale at the St. Anthony Park Library, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Nocturnal Bowling (612-625-0349), 10 p.m.-5 a.m. at the Coplon Spot, St. Paul Student Union, 2701 1st Ave. SE. Call 612-625-0349 for details.
- First annual wine tasting and sale to benefit local nonprofits, 2-5 p.m. at the Milton Square Courtyard. Proceeds to benefit the St. Anthony Park Community Foundation. Sponsored by The Little Wine Shoppe with hors d'oeuvres provided by Millhoma's Café. Must be 21 years of age or older to attend.

### 9 Monday
- "Dance for a Cause," 7-9 p.m. at Spirit United Church (7204 Como Ave. SE). Call to reserve: 612-378-3602.
- St. Anthony Park Elementary School site council meeting, 5-9:30 p.m., St. Anthony Park School.
- St. Anthony Park Block Nurse Program board of directors meeting, St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church Library, 7 p.m.
- Fall Festival fun for 500 and children at 1 p.m. at Falcon Heights City Hall.

### 10 Tuesday
- Open House at the St. Anthony Park Library, 4-6 p.m. Miss Melvin Huggins, new St. Paul Public Library director.
- Lauderdale City Council, City Hall, 1991 Walnut St., 7:30 p.m.

### 11 Wednesday
- No school for St. Paul public school students.
- Miles for St. Paul public school students.
- Take the Falcons for 500 and call 1 p.m. at Falcon Heights City Hall.

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

### 13 Friday
- No school for St. Paul public school students.
- Lauderdale City Council, City Hall, 1991 Walnut St., 7:30 p.m.

### 23 Monday
- No school for St. Paul public school students.

### 24 Tuesday
- First free wine tasting at The Little Wine Shoppe, 2236 Carter Ave. SE. Stop by any time between 4:30 and 7:30. Must be 21 years of age or older to attend. All featured wines are 10 percent off during the tasting.
- Lauderdale City Council, City Hall, 1991 Walnut St., 7:30 p.m.

### 25 Wednesday
- St. Anthony Park Community Council Environment Committee, So. St. Anthony Rec Center, 890 Cromwell, 7 p.m.

### 26 Thursday
- "December A Puppets" at Lauderdale Park Rec Center, 6-7:30 p.m., ages 4-12, $5 (limit 3 per family).

### 27 Friday
- Fall Festival and Silent Auction at St. Anthony Park Elementary, 6-7-7:45 p.m.
- District 10 board meeting. Call 644-3889 for details.

### 28 Saturday
- Bradford Lutheran Church Women's 3rd Annual Craft & Collectible Fair, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 436 Roy St. in St. Paul.

### 30 Monday
- Lauderdale recycling.

From the Nokomis Community Calendar must be submitted to the Bugle office by 6 p.m., Friday, October 20.
Janie Jovaag Ansgorge

Janie Jovaag Ansgorge, age 64, died September 5, 2006. She lived in St. Anthony Park and was active at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church before moving to Austin, Minn., four years ago. She died at St. Marks Lutheran Home there, after a 12-year battle with ovarian cancer. Janie was born March 30, 1942, in Bagley, Minn., to Jonas and Pearl (Martinson) Jovaag. She graduated from Springfield High School and St. Olaf College. For nearly three decades, she was a teacher in Seguin, Texas. She is the author of “When You Are Facing Divorce,” and “When You Are Diagnosed With A Life-threatening Illness.”

She was a loving mother and entrepreneur. She is survived by daughter, Kaira (Eric Jepson) Ansgorge, of Vermillion, S.D.; sons and daughters-in-law, Adam and Kristin Ansgorge of Austin, Minn., and Seth and Amanda Jovaag of Madison, Wisc.; three grandchildren; sister, Corinne (Arthur) Bostad of St. Paul; brother, Arvid (Lois) Jovaag of Austin; and nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Jon Jovaag.

Funeral services were held September 9 at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church.

Evelyn Fahl

Evelyn H. Fahl, age 89, died August 30, 2006, at St. Anthony Park Home. She was formerly of St. Anthony Park and raised her family there.

Evelyn was a school teacher, beginning in country schools in the Spring Grove, Minn., area and, for over 40 years, in the Twin Cities, primarily as a third-grade teacher for the St. Paul Public Schools at Chelsea Heights, Hancock and Tilden schools.

She graduated from Spring Grove High School, Spring Grove Normal School, Winona State University and the University of Minnesota, from which she obtained bachelor's and master's degrees. She was active for years in the Minnesota Schuhplattler German dance group, the St. Paul Hiking Club, and several bridge and card groups.

She is survived by two daughters, Meridel Fahl and Jeannine Olson; three grandchildren, Karen, Daniel, and Rebecca; and two great-grandchildren, Saryu and Cormac.

Her memorial service was September 22 at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, followed by interment at Spring Grove Cemetery.

Marlin Hedberg

Marlin C. Hedberg, age 86, of St. Anthony Park, died August 22, 2006, of complications from myelodysplasia, from which he had suffered for several years.

Marlin met his future wife, Opal, while he was pursuing graduate studies at the University of Minnesota. Following his military service in the Air Force, they moved to Kankakee, Ill., where he began his career with General Mills Chemicals, living there for 17 years. He was transferred back to the Twin Cities in 1968 and continued his work with General Mills Chemicals until that division was sold to Henkel, Inc., a German company, where he continued until his retirement in 1983.

Marlin was a great lover of books, a consummate reader and walker, skilled at woodworking and gardening. His appreciation of nature was one incentive for many years of family camping trips throughout the United States and Canada.

He is survived by Opal, his wife of 54 years, and daughters, Nancy and Teri. He was preceded in death by a third daughter, Lisa, in 2004. A memorial service was held August 29 at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, with interment at Fort Snelling National Cemetery.

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Helen M. Nelson

Helen M. Nelson (nee Tyre) died August 17, 2006, in St. Louis Park. Born August 29, 1919, in Arp, Tex., she lived for many years in El Paso.

In 1952, she married Ralph Nelson of St. Anthony Park. They raised seven children at 1286 Raymond. Later the family moved to the woods near Willow River, Minn. Now Helen lived in Plymouth with her two cars, Tiger and Lucy.

Helen loved nature, gardening, the numerous family pets and cooking Mexican food. In 1953, she showed the congregate of St. Anthony Park Congregational Church at their annual picnic. No one had ever heard of, let alone eaten, an enchilada until that day. There were no leftovers.

Preceded in death by her husband, Robert, and her son, Robert, Helen is survived by six children: Carol Taylor, David (Jazan Higgins) Nelson, Jim (Barbara Weisser) Baker, Steve (Nancy) Nelson, Ellie (Dave) Strock and Rick (Jane) Nelson; daughter-in-law, Margaret Nelson; a sister, Virginia; 12 grandchildren, several nieces and special friend, Judy.

A memorial service was held in August. Interment will be at Roselawn Cemetery in October.

Elizabeth Starr

Elizabeth “Betsy” (Sventek) Starr, age 92, formerly of Lauderdale, died Sept. 11, 2006, in Frederic, Wis.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Reuben Starr. She is survived by children, Raymond (Marion), James (Gail) and Joyce (Jerry) Mullner; five grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; three brothers; and a sister-in-law.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated September 15 at Corpus Christi Catholic Church in Roseville, with interment at Hillside Cemetery.
Lives Lived from 22

Marian Talbott

Marian L. Talbott, age 93, of St. Anthony Park, died September 4, 2006, after a short illness. She was born June 29, 1913, in Emerson, Iowa, to Milton C. and Lois Honeyman. Marian’s life work was nursing, and she practiced in Iowa, Ohio and Minnesota. She volunteered countless hours to such DFL candidates as Hubert Humphrey, Walter F. Mondale and Joseph L. Donovan.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Forrest, after 49 years of marriage, Marian is survived by her son, Richard; daughter, Susan; and other relatives.

Her memorial service was September 21 at St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church.

There is no charge for Bugle obituaries. Please alert the Bugle about the deaths of current or former residents of the area. Send obituaries. Please alert the Bugle if you have more complete information if you have obituaries. Send obituaries. Please alert the Bugle if you have more complete information if you have obituaries. Send obituaries. Please alert the Bugle if you have more complete information if you have obituaries. Send obituaries. Please alert the Bugle if you have more complete information if you have obituaries. Send obituaries. Please alert the Bugle if you have more complete information if you have obituaries.