After 50 years, pen pals finally meet
by Michelle Christianson

How many people have you kept in contact with since you were 11 years old? If you are like most of us, probably not too many. University Grove resident Diane Young has remained friends with Sandra Turner for 50 years, but the two never met until recently.

Turner and Young became pen pals in 1958, when Young (who then lived in rural Pennsylvania) needed to establish a long-distance correspondence in order to get a Girl Scout badge. She contacted Girl Scout headquarters and was given Turner’s name and address in Melbourne, Australia.

Turner, a Girl Guide, had also applied to meet a girl with similar interests in the United States. Thus began a lifelong friendship.

In the beginning, the time between letters was daunting; first-class mail between the two countries took about three weeks each way. But air mail speeded up the process and the two settled into a regular correspondence.

Over the years, advances in technology improved the immediacy and quality of communication. Letters gave way to tapes (both reel-to-reel and cassette), telephone rates dropped enough to allow for more frequent calls and e-mail cemented the already strong bond between the two women.

The two friends have shared everything, from elementary school through high school and college, from boyfriends to husbands and children. They learned about each other’s national customs, holidays, climate and politics. Even their daily menus were fodder for conversation.

But then last touch for a short time. Turner wrote to Young’s father because she didn’t want to lose the friendship.

Pen Pals to 9

BNSF to begin bridge repairs in January
by Anne Holzman

Preliminary work has been completed on the Burlington Northern Santa Fe railroad tracks over Raymond Avenue, a project that will accelerate in January.

BNSF will replace the bridge, and the railroad has announced that Raymond will be closed to all vehicular traffic between Energy Park Drive and Blake Street from March 16 to July 23.

The St. Anthony Park Community Council first learned of the project in late September. The council invited BNSF to attend its October board meeting. Railroad officials postponed that appearance but did attend the council’s Nov. 13 meeting.

At that time, council members were surprised to learn of the project’s duration. “We had no idea it was going to be four months,” said Executive Director Amy Sparks.

According to Jim Lianier of BNSF, the railroad’s major construction projects are on a five-year timeline, and the Raymond bridge was due to be replaced now. He said they will raise the grade of the track about three feet so as to gain a foot of clearance under the bridge, which will bring the height into compliance with current law.

The span of the new bridge will be similar to the current one, Lianier said, but there will no longer be iron piers between the sidewalk and street. The existing stone abutments will be left in place because of their historic value.

Raymond is a county road, and Ramsey County is considering future improvements to Raymond but has not made plans for them yet, according to Ken Haider, Ramsey County engineer.

City engineer Paul St. Martin said there might be money available from capital improvement bonds for use on Raymond after the bridge is completed. He said federal funds have covered some traffic-calming projects the city has already done.

Hardware Bond funds will be used to provide grants for student enrichment and classroom support.

St. Anthony Park native Gretchen Pusch returns to her old stomping grounds on Jan. 11, when she and the other members of the Dorian Wind Quintet will perform as part of Music in the Park Series.

Former Como Park High School soccer players Nate Juergens and Caitlin Durkee continue to excel at the college level. This year, Juergens was a sophomore defender at Macalester College. Durkee was a sophomore midfielder at Georgetown University.

The St. Anthony Park Native American Heritage Center, which has been in operation for 13 years, will be having a 14th Annual Native American Heritage Month celebration on Oct. 27.

Two Bugle writers are contest winners

A ceremony on Dec. 5, two Bugle writers received awards in the Minnesota Community and Ethnic Media Contest, which was sponsored by the Twin Cities Media Alliance.

In the Global-Local Connections category, Lisa Steinmann received an honorable mention for her article on St. Anthony Park resident Fritz M. orloch. Steinmann, who lives in St. Anthony Park, is a freelance writer, writing instructor and information architect. She’s been writing for the Bugle for 15 years.

Monthly Bugle poll at www.parkbugle.org: Are railroads obsolete?
CITY FILES

Falcon Heights

The annual Winterfest will be 1–4 p.m., Jan. 25, at Community Park, Roslindawn and Cleveland avenues. Activities will include horse-drawn hayrides, a bonfire and ice skating. The event is free to attend; tickets will be sold for some activities and food. For more information, call the Falcon Heights Parks and Recreation Department (792-7616) or visit www.falconheights.org.

The city is giving away free gas. Residents can sign up at www.falconheights.org to receive crime alerts, public meeting notices, neighborhood block party information and general city news. Each quarter the city will draw a name at random from those who sign up and give a prize. The first such prize will be a $25 gas card.

A CERT disaster response training course begins Jan. 31 and is open to Falcon Heights and Lauderdale residents over the age of 12. CERT members learn how to respond effectively in a disaster such as a tornado, flood or hazardous material incident, when professional emergency responders may be delayed and transportation, communication and utility networks may be interrupted.

The training runs from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. over six Saturdays, at Falcon Heights City Hall. Cost for the entire course is $25. To enroll, call City Hall (647-4419) by Jan. 23.

The St. Anthony Police Department will host a Citizen Police Academy on Thursdays, starting at 6:30 p.m., from Mar. 12 to Apr. 30. This free program is designed to educate community members about the inner workings of a police department.

Participants must be at least 21 years old and either work or reside in St. Anthony, Falcon Heights or Lauderdale. Applicants must also submit to a background investigation and sign a waiver. For more information, call the Falcon Heights or Lauderdale police department.

The annual Winterfest will be held 7–8:30 p.m. on Jan. 13 at the South St. Anthony Recreation Center to discuss pedestrian, bicycle and traffic calming improvements on Franklin and Territorial.

A short history and background will be presented, and the public will have an opportunity to look at maps and treatment ideas, and give feedback. Cookies, coffee and tea will be provided.

The forum is sponsored by the St. Anthony Park Community Council and the Prospect Park East River Road Improvement Association. Contact Renee (649-5992, renee@sapcc.org) for more information.

All current and aspiring block captains, leaders and coordinators are invited to a “Gathering of Blockheads” at 6:30 p.m., Jan 21, at the St. Anthony Park Library. The meeting will provide an opportunity to meet other “blockheads” and share ideas and information. There will be food from Eden Pizza in Hamline-Midway. Contact Renee (649-5992, renee@sapcc.org) to sign up.

— Anne Holzman

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See information posted on community kiosks or call (651) 298-5765 for the schedule of events.

Sponsored by the Saint Anthony Park Booster Club, which supports recreational, athletic, social and civic activities for the young people of the Saint Anthony Park neighborhood.

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All through the house not a creature was stirring, not even a violinist

by Judy Woodward

At least in her own telling, Gretchen Pusch was not a very distinguished member of the Murray High School marching band. She remembers the difficulties of coordinating music and marching, wearing a heavy uniform on hot days while reading sheet music from a little stand attached to her instrument.

“I played the piccolo,” she remembers, “but I probably didn’t give it my all. I was terrible on turning corners.”

Clearly, when it came to music, what Pusch needed was a sit-down job. Happily for music lovers, she found it.

On Jan. 11, Pusch, a 1973 graduate of Murray High School and now a well-known classical flutist, will return to the neighborhood when the Dorian Wind Quintet performs with the well-known MUSIC in the Park Series.

The quintet, one of the nation’s finest chamber music ensembles, was the first wind quintet ever to perform at New York’s Carnegie Hall, the classical music world’s most prestigious address. Pusch has played with the Dorian since 2000.

It’s all a long way from her high school days, but Pusch says her classmates from that era would not be surprised that she became a professional musician.

“I was serious pretty early,” she says. “Musical was a big piece of my identity as a teenager and young person.”

Don and Joyce Pusch, who still live in St. Anthony Park, were “lovers of the arts who understood the need for private lessons,” says their daughter. Everyone in the family played an instrument, although only Gretchen went on to become a professional musician.

She had studied piano since early childhood but switched to the flute around the time her family moved to St. Anthony Park from White Bear Lake. Pusch studied with players from the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra and the Minnesota Orchestra, but she also remembers mentors from Murrary, like choir director M. Arlene Rush and music director Alton Burns.

Burns recalls, “Pusch didn’t start in the band until seventh or eighth grade, but then she went to town right away. She had a late start but she went like wildfire.”

Pusch says she took up the flute because “I was attracted to the sound, but I also saw the opportunity to play in larger social groups.”

Possibly she had a temperamental inclination to chamber music from the start, but that didn’t mean she had a shot at joining the most common of chamber groups — the string quartet. Her father, otherwise a paragon of supportive musical parenting, deemed that there would be no violinists under his roof.

“Dad said, ’No string playing,’ it’s too painful in the early stages,” Pusch reports. “I applied, her flute had a ‘high, lyrical, dainty sound’ right from the start.

A year after graduating from Boston University, Pusch moved to New York City to become a freelance musician. Her gigs have ranged from Broadway musicals to classical concert halls. In 1983, she made her Carnegie Hall debut as the winner of the Artists International Competition.

“I couldn’t do what I do anywhere else in the country,” she says of her New York-based musical career.

Pusch played with the Dorian Wind Quintet a full season before she was formally invited to join the group. Although her musical ability was unquestioned, the other

Violinist to 8

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DORIAN WIND QUINTET
Sunday, January 11, 2009 - 4:00 P.M.

Gretchen Pusch, flute; Gerard Reuter, oboe; Jerry Kirkbride, clarinet; John Hunt, bassoon; Karl Kramer-Johansen, horn.

Sr. Anthony Park native Gretchen Pusch joins her colleagues to perform a program of music including works by Reicha, Ligeti and D’Rivera.

Pre-concert discussion 3:00 P.M.
And none will hear the postman’s knock
Without a quickening of the heart.
For who can bear to feel himself forgotten?
— W.H. Auden

The pen, it’s said, is mightier than the sword. A noble sentiment, to be sure, although there’s little evidence in our saber-rattling age that those in power care. But even if they did, the aphorism descends to writing an inherently adversarial role that shortchanges the pen’s promise as a unifier.

There is perhaps no flatter term to describe the written word’s potential to bring people together than “pen pal.” Of course, no one uses actual pens anymore for written communication. Now most of our correspondence is electronically generated and transmitted. But the notion implicit in the term survives — the idea that one might, through the written word, strike up a relationship with a stranger and become pals.

These days it’s easy to find a pen pal. Dozens of Web sites are available to match up would-be pals.

At first blush, that seems surprising. After all, if you’re interested in networking, why not just create a page on Facebook or MySpace? The visitors can learn all kinds of things about you: likes and dislikes, taste in books or films or food, romantic ups and downs, plans for the weekend.

Or you could start a blog or create a podcast and send your words whizzing through cyberspace to anyone with an e-mail address.

For up-to-the-minute connectivity, there’s Twitter, which enables one to send and receive text messages up to 140 characters. Dedicated tweeters can provide a nearly continuous update of their activities, and their potential audience is vast — anyone with a cell phone.

But these social networking phenomena aren’t really an alternative to pen pals. For one thing, they’re much more public. Although you can restrict your Facebook page or your tweets to a self-determined group (your “friends”), the idea isn’t to have just one friend. Networking requires a net — not two tin cans connected by a string.

The correspondence pen pals have, on the other hand, is private. It’s also necessarily two-way, which social networking media can be but don’t have to be. When you write to a pen pal, you expect a reply. An even more important difference has to do with what might be called emotional intimacy. Bloggers and tweeters and podcasters and Facebookers are engaged almost exclusively in telling: This is who I am, this is what I do, this is what I think, this is what I like.

Facebookers are engaged almost exclusively in telling: This is who I am, this is what I do, this is what I think, this is what I like. But even more important difference has to do with what might be called emotional intimacy. Bloggers and tweeters and podcasters and Facebookers are engaged almost exclusively in telling: This is who I am, this is what I do, this is what I think, this is what I like. Pen pals are tellers too, but they’re also askers. Indeed, being a pen pal is a prime opportunity to practice the vanishing art of questioning. Who cares if I like? What do you like? What’s it like to be you? Old-fashioned pen pals exchanged letters: actual pieces of paper sent through the mail. Compared to e-mail, that process was clunky. You had to find an envelope, get the proper postage and physically trek to a mailbox. If your pen pal was overseas, a simple exchange of letters might take weeks.

But letters also have advantages, one of which is their very physicality. The contents of an e-mail or text message aren’t necessarily ephemeral, but the medium is. Furthermore, the sheer volume of electronic communication that most of us receive minimizes the significance of any particular message.

A personal letter that arrives in the mailbox stands out in a way that an e-mail message does not. Especially if it comes with foreign postage, a letter announces its specialness with its very appearance. Although real mail boxes, like virtual ones, contain junk, the good stuff requires postage, a letter announces its specialness with its very appearance.

For who can bear to feel himself forgotten?
— W.H. Auden

A written word, said Thoreau, is the choicest of relics. A prized letter is a relic, something to be preserved, handled, treasured.

In the case of letters, though, the medium, ultimately, is not the message. What’s important is what’s said, not how it got there. Whether the words are on a page or on a screen, a personal letter is to be prized precisely because it’s personal.

Thoreau again: “There are probably words addressed to our condition exactly, which, if we could really hear and understand, would be more salutary than the morning or the spring to our lives, and possibly put a new aspect on the face of things for us.”

Perhaps the three sweetest words anyone can hear are these: “I love you.” But close on their heels are these: “You’ve got mail.”

Join your neighbors
The 23rd annual St. Anthony Park Progressive Dinner will be held Saturday, Mar. 7. We hope you can join us for a wonderful evening. It’s a great way to see old friends and meet new neighbors.

The dinner will begin with appetizers at St. Anthony Park Methodist Church at 5:30 p.m.

Thanks, readers, for contributing to the Bugle fund drive

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Bruce & Alvia Weber
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Mary Winters
E.H. Wright
Tony & Aggie Yaple
Natalie Zett

To participate, please contact Fariba Sanikhatam
(Fariba.Sanikhatam@comcast.net) by Mar. 1.

Karen Kidder,
University Grove
Fariba Sanikhatam
St. Anthony Park
Steve Garfield
Noll Hardware
789 Raymond Ave.

Why hardware?
This is a family business. My dad bought the store in the early 1970s, and I worked for him during high school and college. After college, I worked elsewhere for a couple of years. Then I decided to come back to the store and eventually bought out my dad. I liked the idea of being my own boss, and I saw that the store met a need in the neighborhood.

Why here?
This store has been on Raymond Avenue for a long time. Because our building is small, we've always done a fair amount of commercial business. In the last few years, we've seen our residential business pick up, so this continues to be a good place for us.

Who else?
I've owned the business for about 20 years. My brother Mike has worked for me for 10 years. We also have several part-time employees.

What else?
I've done a lot of work on my house in Lino Lakes. I like to be able to advise customers about how to do something, and I figure the best way to learn is to do it yourself. I also enjoy basketball, tennis and ping-pong.

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Is this any way to treat a former MVP?

Your TV played hard last year. Rather than banishing it to the basement, give it the retirement it deserves. Visit RethinkRecycling.com (formerly GreenGuardian.com) to find recycling options for old electronics that can harm the environment if put in the garbage. Don’t throw away your chance for a cleaner future.

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Arts Events

Music in the Park Series presents the Dorian Wind Quintet in concert Jan. 11 at 4 p.m. at St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ, 2129 Commonwealth Ave. For tickets call 645-5699.

The Saint Paul Vocal Forum will begin its sixth season on Jan. 18, with a 4 p.m. concert titled History Lessons and Carols. The free program will present a survey of Christmas choral music, from Gregorian chant through 20th-century compositions.

The concert will be at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, 2323 Como Ave. For more information, visit http://spvf.org/index.html.

Former Northfield Women Poets will read at Nina’s Café in St. Paul as part of their Verse and Converse series at 7 p.m. on Jan. 7. Among the poets will be locals, Susan Hamerski and Joanne Makela. For more information, call Todd Bous at 332-7481 ext. 13.

Lyngblomsten Caregivers Support Group will meet every third Tuesday beginning Jan. 20, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Lyngblomsten. No registration is needed for these free sessions, which include a brief education component and discussion. For more information, contact Bonnie Connolly at 414-5203 or bconnolly@lyngblomsten.org.

Churches

St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, 2325 Como Ave., invites people to come for food and fellowship every Wednesday beginning Jan. 7, from 5:15 to 6:30 p.m. Meals range from Swedish meatballs to pizza. A donation of $5/person or $20/family is recommended. For more information, call 645-0371.

Theologian T.J. Gorringe will preach at the 10:30 a.m. Eucharist Service on Jan. 25 at St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church, 2136 Carter Ave. At a 3 p.m. the same day, a workshop will be held at the church, with Prof. Gorringe speaking on Christian Responsibility for the Built Environment.

LEARN ABOUT YOUR SCHOOL OPTIONS 2009 Parent Information Fair

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Saint Paul RiverCentre – Roy Wilkins Auditorium
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Admission is free.
Free park and ride to and from RiverCentre:
• Sears, 425 Rice St.; starting at 9:15 a.m.
• Saint Paul Public Schools Admin. Building, 360 Colborne St.; starting at 9:15 a.m.
• Johnson Senior High School, 1349 Arcade St., & Harding Senior High School, 1540 E. Sixth St.; starting at 9 a.m.

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651-632-3707
et cetera

To register for the free workshop, call 645-3058 or e-mail rector@smtmathewmn.org.

Recreation

Falcon Heights Parks and Recreation offers several classes in January, all held at Falcon Heights City Hall. For more information about any of these classes or to register, visit falconheights.org or call 793-7616.

- Hatha yoga will be Monday and Wednesday, 10-11:14 a.m., Jan. 5-21, and Thursday, 6-7 p.m., Jan. 8-Feb. 12. Cost is $45 for residents and $50 for nonresidents.
- Scrub a Dub Dub Parent/Child Craft Class will be Jan. 16, 11:15-2:15 p.m. Youth ages 2-5 along with an adult will make their own soap balls, loofa scrubber and wacky soap shapes. Cost is $9 for residents and $11 for nonresidents. Register by Jan. 14.
- Puppet Pizzazz will be held Jan. 30 from 10 to 11 a.m. Children ages 2-5 and an adult will make a variety of puppets from household items. Register by Jan. 28.

People

Two St. Anthony Park residents and former Como Park High all-state soccer players continue to excel at the college level.

- Caitlin Durkee, a Georgetown University sophomore midfielder, received honorable mention to the NCAA Division I Big East Conference all-conference team. She was named to ESPN College Soccer's co-captains for the 2009 season.
- Nate Juergens, a Macalester College sophomore defender, was named to the NCAA Division III M indoors Intercollegiate Athletic Conferences all-conference first team. Juergens was named Macalester’s Most Valuable Player this season, and has been selected to be one of the Scots’ co-captains for the 2009 season.

International Institute

The International Institute of Minnesota will offer Spanish and ESL classes for adult students starting in January. Spanish classes run Jan. 3-4, 10-11:14 a.m. and ESL classes Jan. 16–April 2. New students must take a $20 placement test. To register, or for more information, e-mail dwinders@iimm.org or call 647-0191 ext. 340.

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Parent Fair!

Saturday, January 10th, 2009
9:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Roy Wilkins Auditorium

St. Anthony Park Elementary School is your local school that emphasizes excellence, community and leadership. Bring your questions to our booth and meet teachers, parents and our new principal Ann Johnson.

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Violinist from 3

four-fifths of the quintet had to make sure she would be personally compatible before they granted her tenure in the Dorian. “There’s a lot of togetherness in a chamber music group,” she says. “You have to get people who are musically well-matched, but almost more important is the ability to be flexible and get along with each other. Being in a quintet is like being married to four other people. It’s a pretty intense working environment.”

For Pusch, the performance with the M usic in the Park series may take on some characteristics of a family reunion. Her parents, brother, nieces and other family and friends will be in the audience. Aside from the opportunity to spend some time with her family, she’s looking forward to “my dad’s great wine cellar.” She also hopes to show her Dorian colleagues around St. Anthony Park during their visit. “There will likely be a stop at the M usic Hall and maybe a visit to College Park, where she has fond childhood memories of winter sliding on Suicide Hill and gatherings at that ‘big rock’ where ‘my friends and I went to sit and think.’

There’s just a hint of friendly Minnesota sodi am in her voice when she reflects on her fellow musicians’ upcoming encounter with the January climate. “Our clarinetist lives in Arizona,” she muses. “Except for our bassoon and, I don’t think any of them will be prepared for the cold.”

Pusch says that a musician’s life is far from easy. Music is a joy, but the business of music can be both stressful and mundane. Despite her membership in the Dorian, freelancing is still a big part of her life.

“As a freelancer, I own my own business,” she points out. “It takes a certain amount of business acumen to organize the scheduling.”

Still, there’s no question that even after more than 40 years on the flute, she loves her work. “The big answer is yes,” she says. “Absolutely, I still enjoy it.”
Pen Pals from 1

Young, a fundraiser for the University of Minneosta, is married to Hugh Young, a
university professor, and has one daughter, Patricia, who is 16.

Turner has a variety of jobs, including running her own
coffee shop and working as a
kitchen consultant. She also
married to Hugh Young and has
two grown children.

The two friends had never
met in person until the Friday
before Thanksgiving.

The Turners had several
reasons to visit the United States.
Hugh and Carrie had been in
Peru and joined Sandy in Los
Angeles, where they met Carrie's
exchange student. There they got a
good taste of American life,
including Veteran's Day, and
had the chance to
visit the University of
Minnesota.

The two friends didn't recognize each
other.

The excitement of the moment, the
turning point of the trip.

The 12 days the Turners
were in Minnesota were
"just wow," according to Young, and
"seemed incredible."
The two families did all the
tourist activities, plus more. They
shopped at Rosedale and the Mall
of America. "Sandy loves to shop,
but even the Australian dollar
is only worth 65 cents," drove to
Duluth, saw the sights in both
downtowns, visited Stillwater,
and explored the Science
Museum.

But the most memorable
activities centered on family.

The Turners really wanted to
experience American
Thanksgiving and to see snow,
and they were not disappointed
on either count.

Even the mundane activities
were fun. They cooked together,
did jigsaw puzzles (one was a map
of Australia that Turner had sent
years ago), and chatted late into
the night. Both families enjoyed
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...
Bridge Repairs from 1

10 days over the course of the bridge work.

Lanier said that during the early weeks of construction, M 280 through the first week of May, Raymond might be open evenings and weekends, including Fridays, when crews are not working on the bridge.

Samantha Henningson, legislative aide to Ward 4 Councilmember Russ Stark, asked about M 280 Transit bus route 87, which runs along Raymond. No one at the meeting could speak for M 280 Transit. Henningson asked that city, county and railroad officials keep M 280 Transit informed.

The possibility was raised that the U of M transitway might serve as a bus detour. City and county officials said no other vehicles are likely to be allowed on the transitway because its design and signs do not serve cars and trucks.

Hausman and Eagles said St. Anthony Park Elementary and Murray Junior High could be affected by the project. Eagles said he thinks very few children walk to the school but that parents do drive their children and will experience significant delays from the detour. Hausman said school buses will have to be rerouted and asked that the city inform the school district as soon as possible.

BN SF’s Lynn Leibfried said there will be signs posted on each side of the bridge with weekly updates. Lanier said he will be available to answer questions, although he might refer some inquiries to BNSF headquarters in Kansas City.

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Saturday, January 10th, 1:00 p.m.

David LaRochelle will be here to discuss his children's books and pets in our Second Saturday Children's Series.

Tuesday, January 20th, 7:00 p.m.

Jacey Choy SAP resident, will be here as one of three contributors to the brand-new collection "Fiction on a Sidewalk: New Stories by Minnesota Writers"

AP Scholar: Students who have received an average grade of 3.0 or higher on 3 or more AP exams.

AP Scholar with Honor: Students who have earned an average grade of 3.5 or above on all AP exams taken.

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12 PARK BUGLE ■ JANUARY 2009

January

1 THURSDAY
- Tot Time (for 5-year-olds and younger), 10 a.m.-noon. LRC. Every Thursday.
- St. Anthony Park Community Council Land Use Committee, 7 p.m. SAPCC.
- "Sum of the Parts: Surface Design Association Membership Exhibition 2007" through Jan. 18. GMD.
- Adam Hurt and Beth Hartness, 7:30 p.m. GC.
- Chair exercise class, 12:30-1:30 p.m. SHR. Every Monday and Thursday. Free to seniors.

2 FRIDAY
- Senior Citizen Fun Group (gym, bowling and dart), 9:30-11:30 a.m. SSAPRC. Every Friday.
- Chair exercise class, 3:15-4:15 p.m. SAPBL. Every Tuesday and Friday. Free to seniors.
- Blood drive, 2-7 p.m. SAPLC.
- Chess for all ages, 1-3 p.m. SAPBL. Every Friday.
- Falcon Heights recycling. Ken Duvio and Son, 8 p.m. CG.

3 SATURDAY
- Lucas Paine, 8 p.m. CG.

5 MONDAY
- AR, 8 p.m. SAPLC. Every Monday.
- Boy Scouts, 7 p.m. SAPUCC. Every Monday.

6 TUESDAY
- Free Internet, word processing and Excel instruction, 7-8:30 p.m. SAPBL. Every Tuesday.
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- English conversation classes, 4-5:30 p.m. SAPBL. Every Wednesday.
- Library Book Club. "The Life and Times of the Thunderbolt Kid," by Bill Bryson, 7 p.m. SAPBL.
- Leisure Center for Seniors, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. SAPUMC. Every Wednesday. Lunch reservations by Monday (646-4859). Free blood pressure clinic 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 11 a.m.
- Chair exercise class, 10:30-11:30 a.m. SAPUMCL. Every Wednesday. Free to seniors.
- St. Anthony Park recycling. Every Wednesday.
- Open Stage, 7 p.m. GC. 1st and 3rd Wednesdays.
- PJ Storytelling, 6 p.m. CG.

8 THURSDAY
- Full Council Meeting, St. Anthony Park Community Council, 7 p.m. SAPCC.
- Edgar Allan Poe 200th Birthday Celebration, 7 p.m. SAPBL.

9 FRIDAY
- Preschool story time with puppet show, 10:30 a.m. SAPBL. Every Friday.

10 SATURDAY
- Stela for Star, 8 p.m. CG.

11 SUNDAY
- Dorian Wind Quintet, 4 p.m. SAPUCC.
- Irish Family jam session, 3 p.m. CG.

12 MONDAY
- Park Press, Inc. board meeting, 7 a.m. SAPBL, 646-5369.
- St. Anthony Park Block Nurse Program board meeting, 7 p.m. SAPUMC.
- cribbage and 500, the Falcons, 1 p.m. FCH.
- Prose’s Book Group, "The Shack," by William Paul Young, 7 p.m. MB.
- Neighbors for Peace planning meeting (all are welcome), 7 p.m. Karen Lilly’s home, 2079 Dudley Ave. 644-3927.

13 TUESDAY
- Bridging the Gap public forum, 7-8:30 p.m. SAPRC.
- Baby lap sit storytime, 11 a.m. Lauderdale City Council, 7:30 p.m. LCH.

14 WEDNESDAY
- Falcon Heights City Council, 7 p.m. FHCH.
- Bluegrass and Oldtime Jam Session, 7 p.m. GC. 2nd and 4th Wednesdays.

15 THURSDAY
- Midwinter Surface Design Retreat, Jan. 15-17. GMD.

16 FRIDAY
- Falcon Heights recycling.
- Minnesota Blue, 8 p.m. CG.

17 SATURDAY
- Ira’s Jazz Quartet, 8 p.m. CG.

Happy New Year!

Thanks to all who volunteered time, treasure and talent in 2008. You make St. Anthony Park a better place.

Let’s work together to make 2009 shine.

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Calendar

18 SUNDAY
• Saint Paul Vocal Forum, 4 p.m. SAPUC

19 MONDAY
• Lauderdale recycling.

20 TUESDAY
• District 10 board meeting, 7 p.m. CPCC
• Baby lap sit storytime, 11 a.m. CPES

21 WEDNESDAY
• St. Anthony Park Community Council Community Connections Committee, 7 p.m. SAPCC
• St. Anthony Park Booster Club, 7 p.m. LRC
• Open Stage, 7 p.m. GC
• Book discussion: "The Audacity of Hope," by Barack Obama, 7 p.m. FHUCC

22 THURSDAY
• Roots Music Showcase, 7 p.m. CG

23 FRIDAY
• Dan Newton, 8 p.m. CG

24 SATURDAY
• Falcon Heights Winterfest, 1-4 p.m. Community Park
• Lauderdale Snow*Commotion, 3-6 p.m. Community Park
• Laurie Akermark, 8 p.m. CG
• Prof. Tj. Garringe, 7 p.m. OCC

25 SUNDAY
• Prof. Tj. Garringe, 10:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. SMEC
• Sunday Afternoon Book Group, 2:30 p.m. MB

26 MONDAY
• Cribbage and 500, the Falconers, 1 p.m. FCH
• Teen Book Club, "Twilight," by Stephenie Meyer, 7 p.m.

27 TUESDAY
• Lauderdale City Council, 7:30 p.m. LCH

28 WEDNESDAY
• Falcon Heights City Council, 7 p.m. FCH
• St. Anthony Park Community Council Environment Committee, 7 p.m. SAPCC

29 THURSDAY
• Roots Music Showcase, 7 p.m. CG

30 FRIDAY
• Atomic Fles, 8 p.m. CG

31 SATURDAY
• Kids Book Club, "Into the Wild," by Erin Hunter, 11:30 a.m. SAPBL
• Michael Basques, 8 p.m. CG

Items for the February Community Calendar should be submitted to the Bugle office by 8 p.m., Jan. 12.

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Ida Davies
Ida Davies, of Falcon Heights, died Nov. 27, 2008. She was 96. A pioneer in the care of the mentally ill, Ida was an active volunteer into her 90s for an agency that helps mentally ill veterans.

Ida (more commonly known as I. O.) Davies grew up in Excelsior, graduating from Central High School in Minneapolis. After receiving a bachelor’s degree in social work at the University of Minnesota in 1934, she began a long career in mental health agencies and mental health organizations. She was also active in many reformed mental institutions.

In 1955, she received her master’s degree in social work from the university. Later, she led a group in St. Paul that helped former psychiatric patients live in the community.

For much of the 1960s and 1970s, Davies established programs and supervised social work interns at the Hennepin County Mental Health Center, serving as a clinical assistant professor for the University of Minnesota. She also helped pioneer role-playing for patients, in which they practiced accepted social behavior.

From the late 1970s to 1991, Davies worked for several agencies, including Bridge for Runaway Youth, and continued to supervise graduate interns at the university.

She and her husband of 64 years, Jack, were founding members of a seniors group at the North Star Chapter of the Sierra Club: OWLS (Older, Wiser and Livelier Sierrans). Besides her husband, she is survived by sons Richard Sommer, of Quebec, and David Sommer, of Minneapolis; daughters Diana Davies of Freiburg, Switzerland, and Wanda Davies of Rossville; 10 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Services were held Dec. 15, 2008, at the First Unitarian Society in Minneapolis.

Katharine Kavanaugh

She was the wife of the late William A. Kavanaugh. She is survived by her daughters, Katharine (Roy) Schmoeing and Barbara (Allen) Anderson; four grandchildren; and two step-grandchildren.

She graduated with a B.A. from the University of Minnesota in 1943 and retired from the U of M bookstore after 30 years of service. She was a member of St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ before moving to Illinois and Virginia to be near her daughter. She was a member of OES, St. Anthony Park Chapter #121, for 58 years. Her volunteer work included White Shrine, Camp Jim, in Brainard, and Unity Prayer Tower.

Her funeral service was held Dec. 6, 2008, at Holy Trinity-Harry-Boomin-Funeral Chapel in St. Paul.

Martha Lindgren
Martha Lindgren, age 88, died peacefully on Nov. 17, 2008, after suffering a stroke in early October.

She was born on a small farm in Poplar, Wis., on Jul. 30, 1920. Her first language was Finnish, which she spoke at home until she started attending school, where she had to learn English. In her family attended a Finnish Lutheran church, where she became the self-taught organist.

Martha went to high school in Superior, Wis. In 1938, she and her sister Florence moved to St. Paul, where she worked as a secretary for $2.5 a week. Later that year she met Howard Lindgren. When World War II began, Howard was sent overseas and Martha waited in St. Paul for him to return. The two were married shortly after his homecoming on Oct. 25, 1945. They spent their honeymoon at Niagara Falls.

The next 15 years they were busy with six children: Diane, Diirk, Rebecca, Glenn, M ark, and Ramona. Along with raising their children, Martha was active as a PTA president for 10 years, a member of the moms group at Immanuel Lutheran Church and the homemakers group.

In 1962, the family moved to St. Anthony Park. Martha continued to be heavily involved with the Finnish American Historical Society, where she became the first female president.

She helped organize the first Finn Fest in 1962 and only missed one in the years that followed. She financed all her trips to Finn Fest by making and selling straw crafts. She worked to organize the Finnish Booth at the Festival of Nations, and was later a member of the steering committee for the festival.

As an active member of St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, she enjoyed church circle and the quilters group.

Martha and Howard celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 1995 and remained together until his death in 2003. She is survived by their six children, 11 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Her memorial service was held Nov. 22, 2008, at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, with internment at Roselawn Cemetery.

Philip Mooney
Philip J. Mooney, age 81, of Shoreview, formerly of Como Park, died Nov. 26, 2008. He was a 3M retiree and longtime hearse driver.

He was preceded in death by six siblings and son-in-law Greg Bies. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Eleanor; children, M auraen (Ken) Decaster, Dennis, Kathleen, Dave, Laurie Bies, Ferne (Don) Luxtedt, Tom (Sandy) and Ann (Chad) Radenbaugh; 16 grandchildren; two step-grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Mary of M ary Catholic Church, with interment at Fort Snelling National Cemetery.

Elaine Overgard
Elaine Forsell Overgard, age 85, died suddenly Nov. 16, 2008. She was a 1944 graduate of Lutheran Deaconess Hospital School of Nursing, and retiree of U of M Boynton Health Service.

Elaine was preceded in death by her husband, Conrad (1971); son, Richard (1973); and brother, Alfred. She is survived by her daughters, Jean (Tim) Baumgartner, of Richmond, Wis., Virginia O’grady and Joan O’grady, of St. Paul; son, Greg (Barb) of Burnsville, M in; three grandchildren, and sisters Emily Pilotzenmaier, Dore Ascher and Ruth (Robert) Anderson.

Her funeral service was held Nov. 21, 2008, at St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ, with interment at Oa kland Cemetery, in east St. Croix.

Roger Vandenheuvel
Roger Allen Vandenheuvel, age 67, of Shoreview, formerly of south St. Anthony Park, died while on vacation in Branson, M o., surrounded by his family and special M ose Lodge friends.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Karen. He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Lois; daughter, Cindy (Mike) M eier; sons, Robert, Jerrod (Jennifer), and sister-in-law, Jan. A. M ose ritual was performed at the visitation at Miller Funeral Home in Fridley on Nov. 13, 2008, with interment at Fort Snelling National Cemetery.

Susan Walz
Susan Marie Walz, age 55, of Lauderdale, died Nov. 26, 2008, after a long and courageous battle with cancer. She was preceeded in death by her father, M artin. She is survived by her mother, Lucille, and siblings, Kathy Bock (Georgie), David

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A Memorial Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Nov. 29, 2008, at the Church of the Holy Family.
There is no charge for Bugle obituaries. Please alert the Bugle about the death of current or former residents of the area. Send more complete information if you have it. Obituaries are compiled by Mary Mergenthal. 644-1650, mary.mergenthal@comcast.net.

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