We've got recipes for latkes, spare ribs, Skånsk Gröt and more!

Holiday haute cuisine
We’ve got recipes for latkes, spare ribs, Skånsk Gröt and more!

College Park is open for winter
Stormwater project on hold
Area sledders can put College Park’s Suicide Hill back on the winter to-do list. The discovery of an unexpected elevation of groundwater has put a stormwater infiltration-and-treatment project on hold, according to Bruce Elder, sewer utility manager at St. Paul Public Works.

The $945,000 project was set to begin in early October, but the city has delayed the project “until we understand why we see this increase in water elevation,” Elder said.

The city has been monitoring the groundwater in the park for several years. The recent increase “is not consistent with readings we’ve taken over the last three years,” Elder said. The city is working with a geotechnical company to find out the source of the increased groundwater. In the meantime, College Park will remain a construction-free zone this winter.— Kristal Leebrick

WW II volunteer, world trekker, storyteller
Gertrude Esteros, retired U design head, reflects on war, her 97 years and a lifetime of learning

By Kristal Leebrick

Gertrude Esteros still recalls the day she knew she’d see the world. It was spring. She was picking strawberries near a wooded area on her parents’ farm near Saginaw, Minn. She was 7 years old.

“I got a little tired of picking and moved into the shade of the trees,” she said. “I sat there and ate some of those berries I had just picked, and I remember thinking, ‘When I get bigger I am going to travel all over the world. I am going to see the whole world.’ ”

Nineteen years later, on Dec. 7, 1941, Esteros began to realize her childhood vision as she stood in a crowded college auditorium and listened to President Roosevelt announce over the radio that the Japanese had just attacked Pearl Harbor. Within months Esteros quit her teaching position at Linwood College near St. Louis, Mo., and joined the American Red Cross. She shipped off to the South Pacific in December 1942 and served in the Pacific Theater until the war ended in 1945.

Seven decades have passed since the United States was drawn into World War II. Esteros is now 97 and living in a condominium at 1666 Coffman, the sprawling white University of Minnesota senior complex on Larpenteur Avenue in Falcon Heights. Her home is filled with pieces of art that map Esteros’ efforts to see the whole world: an altar piece from India, masks and carvings from New Guinea, a wooden peasant creche from Poland, a granary door from Mali, prints from fellow faculty members.

Esteros (pronounced “es-te-ros”) retired from the university in 1980 after building an impressive resume that includes heading the Department of Design for 30 years and founding the Goldstein Gallery (now the Goldstein Museum of Design). A housing expert, she took a lead role in developing the building she now lives in.

She’s a quick-witted woman who says she wouldn’t have lived so long without a sense of humor. Her body is wearing out, she says with a shrug. Her arthritis troubles her and she depends on a walker to get around, but she can hear well and continues to participate in groups she’s been involved in for years. She holds meetings at her dining room table and attends lectures at 1666, where she also heads the community’s garden club.

Snowbirds
Black-capped chickadees are frequent visitors at our winter bird feeders. The little birds are masters at adapting to Minnesota’s cold weather, and some of those adaptations may be why they never leave. You can read more about the chickadee on page 9. Photo by Ben Wilson

Handy pull-out Holiday Shopping Guide inside

St. Anthony Park
Falcon Heights
Lauderdale
Como Park

Fund-drive premium
Readers who contribute $100 or more to the Bugle’s 2012 fund drive receive Dave Healy’s book Above the Fold.

New MLS designations rankle ‘Como’ residents.

More World War II stories on 7 & 8
Better hurry. 1,500 pounds the annual Pancake Breakfast held at the Job Corps Center.

District 10's annual Pancake Breakfast on Oct. 29 in the teen center held its third-annual event. It's no secret: It's back. Christmas Sausage is back for the holidays. The legendary sausage doesn't last long.

Pancakes, sausage, orange juice and coffee were served at the Job Corps Center.

Sausage Raffle

The Lindquist Christmas Sausage is back for the holidays. Better hurry. 1,500 pounds of the legendary sausage doesn't last long.

Pancake Breakfast

Clowning around in District 10

A clown and her bag of tricks were a big hit in the Kid's Corner at the annual Pancake Brakfast held at the Job Corps Center.

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St. Anthony Park

Recycle your old holiday lights

The Clean Energy Resource Team is partnering again this year with the Recycling Association of Minnesota to help Minnesotans recycle their old holiday lights instead of throwing them away. Como Park Zoo and Conservatory, 1750 E. Lake Street, is one of the drop-off locations. Visit the website, www.mnr ultrasound.com, for a list of other drop-off locations. Group to look at future development in Central Corridor

Falcon Heights

Buy Local Campaign

You can support the local economy and protect the environment (and win a prize!) by shopping locally.

Winter Break Adventure Camp

Due to popular demand, the Winter Break Adventure Camp will be offered again.

Laureldale

Public comment sought on proposed 2012 levy

The Launderdale City Council will take public comment on the proposed 2012 levy and budget at the Dec. 13 City Council meeting. The meeting will start at 7:30 p.m. in the city council chambers at Launderdale City Hall, 1891 Walnut St.

It's back....... The Lindquist Christmas Sausage is back for the holidays.

Save the date for annual SAP Progressive Dinner

The annual St. Anthony Park Progressive dinner will be held Saturday, Feb. 25. It's a great opportunity to meet your neighbors.

The event will begin at 5:30 p.m. with appetizers at the St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church, 2200 Hillside Ave. Participants then fan out across the neighborhood to share salads, main courses and desserts at host homes. Read the January Park Bugleland for details on how to sign up. If you want to sign up now or need more information, email coordinator Jane Leonard at mmmartin@comcast.net.
MLS designation riles residents who thought they lived in ‘Como’

By Roger Bergerson

Nearly 2,000 residences formerly identified as being in “Como” have been given a different designation by a homes-for-sale listing, a decision that has many homeowners steamed.

“Illogical,” is one of the assessments of the change by the Multiple Listing Service (MLS). “Remarkably silly,” “outrageous” and “idiotic” also are in the mix.

The Regional Multiple Listing Service of Minnesota Inc. is owned by the realtor associations of St. Paul and Minneapolis and provides real estate professionals across Minnesota and western Wisconsin with information about property for sale. Recently, it announced the elimination of its former district system for home listings in the Twin Cities metropolitan area in favor of a new one based on neighborhoods.

In St. Paul, for example, gone are the “District 744–Como” and “District 742–Central” designations. Replacing them are “Como,” the boundaries of which generally conform to those of the District 10 Como Community Council, and “North End/South Como,” analogous to the configuration of the District 6 Planning Council.

The controversy arises from the fact that two areas formerly included in District 744 are now grouped within North End/South Como. This particularly rankles the neighborhood just east of Lexington Parkway and south of Lake Como where residents are mere footsteps from the park and lake.

Many were alerted to the change by fliers distributed by agents with Keller Williams Realty, including Shawn Korby, a resident of the affected area south of the lake. He argues that the new system is as arbitrary as the old one and will...

City Council approves Raymond Avenue project

By Kristal Leebrick

The St. Paul City Council approved a major street project on Raymond Avenue in south St. Anthony at its Nov. 2 meeting.

The $2.1 million project will narrow parts of Raymond, add bump-outs to decrease the length of pedestrian crossings, add new pedestrian crossings and medians, eliminate some on-street parking and add new lighting, sidewalks and curbs. Construction is set to begin in 2013 and take three to four months to complete.

The plan to rework the street began in October 2004. In 2006, a proposal was submitted to the city’s Capital Improvement Budget Committee for funds for the project. Those funds were approved in 2011. The project also received a $1 million federal grant through the Metropolitan Council.

Raymond Avenue was built in 1923 and, other than a new overlay of asphalt in 1956, 1982 and 2000, no work has been done on it since it was built, according to city engineer Paul St. Martin. The original pavement is nearly 90 years old.

Here are highlights of the project:

- Curb lines and parking will not change from University to Territorial Road. The street will be restriped and bump-outs will be added at all four corners of the Territorial Road and Raymond intersection.
- Parking will continue on both sides of the street from Territorial to the Ellis-Bradford intersection. Bump-outs will be added at Ellis Road and Bradford.
- Ellis and Bradford will be realigned. Currently, both streets come together to intersect at Raymond, creating a large pedestrian crossing. Bradford would be realigned to Ellis and Ellis would intersect with Raymond. The...
Local spending ripples through the community

The season of accelerated shopping, so if you are out and about spending money, consider the benefits of spending it close to home. Every dollar you spend locally, the ‘buy local’ movement is more than a sound bite by localvertisers, local community leaders and local politicians. The community business often employs people who live in the area. Local business owners and workers are more likely to visit the local bakery or restaurant. That business is more likely to support community institutions such as schools and libraries, bank at the local bank and advertise in the local news media, and that includes the Park Bugle.

That brings us to what we really want to say in this space this month. The Park Bugle, your nonprofit, community newspaper, is grateful to all the locally owned businesses that advertise with us each month. That advertising has a ripple effect. It helps these businesses get the word out about their products or services, and in turn it helps the Bugle publish each month to bring our readers news about our schools, our local institutions, our neighbors—and our local businesses. (Our other source of funding is you, the readers, contributing to our annual fund drive.)

L E T T E R S

Disability persons can call the city to get sidewalk shoveled

I have worked to get St. Paul sidewalks shoveled in the winter to enable people with mobility problems to use the sidewalks. St. Paul’s City Council and City Coggin for bringing up the problem. All studies seem to indicate that there is no level of particulate matter pollution that is benign in its health effects. (Again, see the above study.) It might be beneficial to organize our neighbors, but we could at least contact our representatives at the city and state level and ask for a solution to the problem.

Christopher Tyndall

Participating in the Annual Fund Drive

To get a sidewalk shoveled, a disabled person needs to call the City of St. Paul with the address of the property that needs shoveled. Call 651-266-9999.

I live in the Sibley Hill-Rise on Raymond Avenue, a block north of University Avenue. I got the entire walkway between my building and the sidewalk last winter shoveled to the concrete with the exception of one stretch of parking lot that is zoned residential. Two people have told me how much they appreciated being able to reach the University 16 bus easily.

St. Paul won’t do anything without an address because they need to identify the property owners so they can be sure to note the address before you call.

Linda M. Mainquist
St. Anthony Park

The Bugle: Your source for local, relevant news

Donate $100 or more to the Park Bugle’s annual fund drive and we’ll give you a copy of Above the Fold, longtime Bugle editor Dave Healy’s collection of selected editorials he wrote during his 10 years at the paper.

The Bugle is high-quality local journalism that affects you, your family and your community. We are your source for school and business news, editorials, ads, events calendars and more. And every month it comes to your door for free. Though our pages are supported by our generous local businesses through ad revenue, this is only a portion of the income we need to bring in to cover our monthly expenses. That rest needs to be covered by people—like you—who understand the importance of this community resource.

To help bring you the news you want and need about the community where you live, we must raise $35,000 this year. The Park Bugle is one of a handful of nonprofit community newspapers left in the nation.

Please help us keep the Bugle alive and healthy with your tax-deductible gift today. You can send your contribution to the Park Bugle, PO Box 8126, St. Paul, MN 55108, or give online at parkbugle.org and click on the green “Donate Now” button at the top of the page.
The Parent-Teacher

Why No Child Left Behind needs to be left behind

By Megan Marsnik

I met a young couple at a party recently who had just moved to M inneapolis. They have two children, one of whom will start kindergarten next year. "Where will you send your son to school?" I asked the mother.

"I don’t know," she said. Although she’d heard good things about her neighborhood schools, St. Anthony Park, Elementary and Murray Junior High, M Murray was not being considered. "You’ll probably think I’m nutty," she said, "but I’ve been doing a lot of research, and I definitely don’t want my kids to attend M Murray."

"What kind of research?" I asked.

"I went online to the Department of Education. According to No Child Left Behind, M Murray is a failing school," she told me. "And I don’t want my kids to go to a failing school."

As a parent of an incredible happy and well-educated M Murray eighth-grader, I cringed. As a public school teacher, I double-cringed. I knew exactly what she was talking about. The latest report cards released by the Department of Education did, in fact, indicate that M Murray is not making "adequate yearly progress," or AYP. Nor are most other St. Paul junior or senior high schools. The same is true in Minneapolis. Statewide, 47 percent of all schools are "failing." And they’re failing?

As required under the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) law and state statute, the Department of Education issues standardized tests (the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments, or MCA’s) to all students in third to eighth, grade and 10th and 11th grades. Results are compiled separately for each ethnic group, for special education and for English language learners. In each grouping, 95 percent of students must show up to take the test. If they don’t, the school fails.

In addition to showing up for the test, 90 percent of each demographic must test proficient in reading and math. If they don’t, the school fails.

I teach at a multicultural, arts-loving, urban public high school in M inneapolis. For the last two years, the Washington Post has rated this school the "Best High School in M inneapolis." We offer rigorous, college-preparatory programs that challenge students from all demographics. And, unlike Blake, Breck, St. Paul Academy and other schools that rival our college acceptance rate, the school where I teach is free to the public. Yet, according to the NCLB, we are failing.

"Why did we not make "adequate yearly progress"? As schoolwide scores skyrocketed, we decreased the achievement gap for the sixth year in a row. However, one student in a particular demographic did not take the test, so we failed the participation qualification. Three students in a different demographic did not score proficient in math. As a result, the Department of Education labeled us as failing to meet AYP.

"I wish we had done more for those students; truly I do. Yet, it is difficult for students, parents and educators not to feel duped. The standards are unrealistic.

At best, the NCLB labels are inaccurate and misleading. At worst, they threaten the future of public education. If the public believes that public education is broken to this hyperbolic degree, why would they want to fund it? As great public schools fail to meet the unattainable standards, they are penalized.

If a school does not make AYP, it is not given more resources. Are additional teachers or aides hired to lower class sizes and give struggling students more attention? Are more translators hired to help communicate with parents? No. If a school does not make AYP, that school (provided it receives Title I funding) must pay for private tutoring for any student in the school or pay to transport any student to a school that did make "adequate yearly progress."

Last year, 460 St. Paul students were transported to other schools at the district’s expense. About 15,000 were eligible. As a whole, students who transferred did not improve their scores. As a parent and a teacher, I firmly believe that schools and teachers should be accountable. Teachers should produce measurable results.

By Megan Marsnik

The trouble with an e-book present? It doesn’t look very good wrapped up in a box under a tree.

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Where were you when you heard about Pearl Harbor?

By Judy Woodward

Dec. 7, 2011, marks the 70th anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor naval base in Hawaii, the event that drew the United States into World War II. Residents of Lyngblomsten Retirement Community in Como Park shared their memories of Sunday Dec. 7, 1941. (Photos by Lori Hamilton)

Janet Christianson, 92

On Dec. 7, 1941, I was 22 years old and I worked as a bookkeeper for my uncle’s plumbing business. It was a beautiful sunny day. I lived in the Como Park area, and we walked six blocks to the Warrendale Presbyterian Church at Como and Lexington. After church, I went with my boyfriend to his parents for a meal, and then we all went for a Sunday drive.

It came in on the radio. Pearl Harbor had been bombed. I hardly knew where Pearl Harbor was. What a shock. We were all stunned.

I didn’t marry that boyfriend. He went into the Navy [and I didn’t hear from him]. A couple of years later, he called from San Francisco to see if I wanted to get married, but I was going with somebody else by then.

Mary Eileen O’Brien, 90

I was 20 and I was a junior at St. Catherine’s [University]. That Sunday afternoon we were rehearsing a musical show. They said we could take a coffee break, so we went down to the tearoom.

The radio was on, and some of the students started crying because their fathers were in the service. One girl’s father was an officer at Pearl Harbor. Later that day, her mother called to tell her that her father had survived.

The man I was going out with (we married in 1944) was in the Army Reserves. He called me from Fort Snelling that afternoon and said, “We’re prepared and we’re not prepared.” It was a total surprise to everyone.

Paul Samuelson, 90

I was 19. On Dec. 7, I was at home on the farm southwest of Starbuck, Minn. I remember that evening we sat and listened to President Roosevelt on the radio, who informed us that we had been attacked.

I didn’t think about the future then, but the following spring I joined the Army and I ended up in the 10th Mountain Division in Italy. We were given credit for turning the war around.
1942 disaster

Air crash snatched young lives, stunned close-knit community

By Roger Bergerson

Despite some clouds and rain, the sun looked bright for the three boyhood buddies from Como on that summer morning in 1942. Recently graduated from Murray High School, Roy Josephson, Jim Painter and Bob Paulson had maintenance jobs with Northwest Airlines at Wold-Chamberlain Field, the predecessor to today’s Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport.

They had just finished their night shift on July 30 and were realized by the prospect that they were not in line for assignment to Alaska. In the meantime, the young men and a few colleagues—including Wilbur Rose from St. Anthony Park, who had graduated from Murray the year before—had convinced a couple of pilots to take them along on a flyght.

The aircraft was a Boeing 247, an early model of airliner, being converted to wartime use as a U.S. Army transport. The pilots were familiarizing themselves with its operation.

But a supposedly routine flight took a disastrous turn seconds after takeoff. The plane swerved nose upward into an almost vertical position, flipped backward and crashed at 7:42 a.m. with a terrific impact that could be heard for miles. Its 10 occupants were killed instantly.

The enormity of the tragedy was slow to unfold in the neighborhood just southeast of the Snelling and Como avenues intersection. The Josephson and Paulson families lived at 1387 and 1397, respectively, with the Painters nearby at 1525 Breda Ave. About 8:30 a.m., on the Painter’s hearth there had been a crash and called his wife, Cleta, from his job at the Midway Creamery on Como Avenue to ask if Jim was home from work and knew anything about it. A few minutes later, Roy Josephson’s mother called M. R. Painter and the devastating news that Roy had been killed.

Anxious about their own sons, Mrs. Painter and Hazel Paulson drove to the airport and entered the Northwest Airlines office, realizing the awful truth as employees offered their condolences.

That night, the grief-stricken parents talked to the St. Paul Pioneer Press about their sons, how they’d been close in starting kindergarten at Tilden Elementary School over on Arona Street. (The report, 21-year-old Garth H. Hibert, went on to write for the A. papers for almost 50 years, more than 30 of those as the O’Leary Towne columnist for the St. Paul Dispatch.)

The Murray High School student newspaper, The Murcune, later recalled that all three played on the school’s football team. Josephson was captain his senior year. It also noted that Wilbur Rose had been one of the best-looking students in the Class of 1941, excelling at basketball, track and skating.

Rose’s father, Raymond, was a plant pathologist in the University of Minnesota College of Agriculture and the family lived at 2252 Carter Ave. H. Paulson was a salesperson for a milliner in downtown St. Paul, while Luther Josephson worked as a mechanic in the nearby Northern Pacific Railway shops.

In those unsettling early days of World War II, the disaster quickly faded from the public consciousness but area residents of a certain age still remember the shock wave it sent through the community.

Roger Bergerson, a former newspaper reporter, lives in Como Park resident.

WW II volunteer, world trekker, storyteller

Gertrude Esteros from 1

“The beauty of aging,” she says, “is you learn so much more.”

Doing something positive

Esteros was 27 when she decided to put her education on hold and head into a war zone.

“I was aware of the European war perhaps more profoundly than most Americans,” she said. A child of Finnish immigrants, she had family who had fought and were displaced in the 1939 Russian invasion of Finland. (Estonians would later return to Finland with the Friends Service Committee after the war to help Finnish refugees build homes.)

Describing herself as “something of a pacifist,” Esteros felt she needed to do something to help the people involved in the war.

“I was sitting in the middle of the United States perfectly safe and sound while all this was going on in the world,” she said. “I didn’t believe in war. I thought I could do something to make it make sense.”

The Red Cross was recruiting. Esteros said, “and I was welcomed open arms. I was directed to join the Red Cross you had to be a college graduate, you had to be 25 years of age or older and you had to be recommended in some way that they knew that you were a stable person. Not that they said it in quite those words, but the pressures of war were many.”

Her first assignment was a recreation worker at a field hospital in Finschafen, New Guinea, where she led activities for able-bodied soldiers. That included a group of paratroopers who were mistakenly dropped in New Guinea, Esteros said. “They found themselves with nothing to do. New Guinea didn’t need paratroopers. Here were these highly motivated paratroopers and they had nothing to do.” So she engaged them in what she called “real conversation.”

“We did storytelling,” she said. “I had Esteros’ home is filled with art from her world travels, including masks and carvings from her second trip to New Guinea in 1980.

sessions that were just remarkable. They adored [it]. I learned this was the most important form of recreation I could do. They could talk about their dog or their home or their wife or their children or parents or anything.”

The camp commanding officer told her that whenever he was looking for Esteros, he only had to look for a group of men “sitting around in a circle talking away.”

Storytelling was innate to Esteros. “I happened to be a pretty good storyteller myself because we told stories in my own family. This is how we entertained ourselves in the wintertime.” Her parents told such detailed stories of their homeland, she said, that when she finally traveled to Finland, her mental image of the country was quite accurate, she said.

She hasn’t lost her ability to tell a good yarn. While entertaining a visitor at her home recently, Esteros pulled a carved wooden bowl shaped like a fish from a nearby shelf.

“This is the story of my going on a trip to a village while I was in New Guinea,” she began.

The fish bowl story

“It’s strange. There were whole long periods of time when I was at Finschafen where I have no memory at all. It must have been dull.” she laughed. “We must have been just marking time.”

One Saturday morning in New Guinean town of New Georgia’s lamps stayed on the floor. It was a free day and some man soldiers said they were going to go on a trek to visit a village. “She was eager to join them. “I wanted to see something other than just our G.I. encampment and the hospital life,” she said. “I said, ‘Oh, I’m going. There’s a village there somewhere. I’m going.’”

Both the St. Paul Dispatch and the St. Paul Pioneer Press reported on the 1942 plane crash that claimed the lives of four local men in 1942. Image courtesy of the Minnesota Historical Society.

Gertrude Esteros says humor is the key to telling a good story and living to 97: “This is why we told stories during the war. You just wouldn’t have made it if you couldn’t have laughed.” Photo by Lori Hamilton
Gertrude Esteros from 7

‘When I get bigger . . . I am going to see the whole world.’

The other women drove back to camp, but Esteros continued. It was a difficult hike, she said, particularly when the group reached a wide ravine. ‘I did some running steps and I leaped across, and at that point I’m thinking, “Isn’t it a good thing those other women didn’t come?”

The group eventually met up with some native men. ‘They came through between the trees carrying long wood spears and I thought, “Oh, my goodness, isn’t this fascinating.”’ Esteros said. ‘I was just thrilled to see something like that.’ One of the soldiers was able to speak some of the native language and the group was led to the village, where Esteros said she saw only men and boys.

‘Where are the women and the little girls?’ she asked. ‘And this got translated to the head man and he grinned at me.’

Esteros was led to a clearing where she was introduced to a woman she assumed was the head man’s ‘N. O. 1 wife.’ ‘She was a little woman, the oldest woman in the group,’ she said. ‘I think he had five wives. I stayed there with the women and he went back to be with the man.’

Esteros was wearing her Red Cross uniform: a long-sleeved khaki shirt, khaki pants, boots and a cap. ‘And the women came and felt my sleeve and touched my arm and were curious . . . . They were wearing no clothes at all down to the waist, and so I took off my shirt to show them I was a woman,’ she said. ‘Oh, they were so pleased. But then they were curious about my bra, so I took it off.’

The women passed the bra around and tried it on, she said. She laughed hard as she continued to describe that day. ‘It was so funny. I remember thinking, “I’d like to have a picture of this’.”

Esteros sat on the ground and the women gathered in a circle around her. A little girl climbed onto her lap and Esteros saw the head man pick her up to one knee. ‘A smiling so broadly,’ she said. ‘I think he was so pleased that I was getting along with his wives and his children. Eventually, Esteros put her shirt and bra back on and went back to the men.

As the group of Americans were leaving the village, ‘the head man came and gave me two gifts: a spear and a bowl shaped like a fish, and as I understand it this is a ceremonial bowl, though I do not understand what kind of ceremony it was. It was a lovely exchange. I swear I had such a wonderful experience.’

Raymond Avenue project from 3

The realignment will require the city to acquire some land from a townhome association at that intersection. ‘Bike lanes will be added between the Ellis-Bradford intersection and Long Avenue. That block is the only part of the avenue that at present does not have bike lanes. Parking will be permitted on the east side of the street only.

The intersection at Long and Raymond will be narrowed and Long and Raymond will intersect with Raymond just south of the curve at that point of the road.

From Long to Hampden Avenue, three medians will be added along Raymond with space to allow cars to turn into Bayless Avenue and the Hampden Park Food Co-op parking lots.

Bayless Place will be extended to meet Raymond Avenue, and the intersection at Bayless Avenue and Raymond will be removed.

The metro transit bus bay at the northwest corner of Hampden will move to the southwest corner of Hampden and Raymond.

The island at Hampden and Raymond will be enlarged and landscaped.

The project will include reconstruction of the water main, new sidewalks and new streetlights from Territorial to Hampden. The lights will be the lantern-style lamps similar to those installed in St. Anthony Park in the last decade.

SAP senior group earns Charities Review seal

St. Anthony Park Area Seniors (formerly the St. Anthony Park Block Nurse Program) has been awarded the Charities Review Council’s ‘Mets All Standards’ Seal and certified in accountability by meeting all 27 of the council’s accountability standards.

St. Anthony Park Area Seniors earned the seal by voluntarily participating in the council’s online Accountability Wizard, which analyzes nonprofit organizations’ performance in four critical areas: public disclosure, governance, financial activity and fundraising.

St. Anthony Park Area Seniors is now listed as a reviewed organization on the online Giving Guide of the council’s Smart Givers Network, www.smartgivers.org, and on the council’s Smart Givers newsletter distributed to households, businesses and nonprofits. The Smart Givers Network helps the public investigate an organization’s mission statement and programs, so they can be sure of what their money supports and that the organization meets widely accepted standards.

For more information about St. Anthony Park Area Seniors, visit www.SAPAS.org or call 651-642-9002.
Perky chickadee is here all winter

Most of us see black-capped chickadees all year round. They can brighten a winter day with their perky antics at the feeder, flitting to and fro, grabbing a seed and zipping off to open it, usually holding it between their feet and pecking away at it.

I’ve always thought that it was great of chickadees to stay around all winter, willing to brave the winter storms, finding a way to survive in our “Arctic” north. But it may not be a matter of choice.

Chickadees are small birds. They're about 5 inches long and weigh between 10 to 14 grams. The weight of two or three nectars. They have a black cap that comes down just over the eye that is complemented by a black bib. Between cap and bib is a white cheek and shoulder. There’s some buff in the sides and belly and some white in the otherwise gray wing.

Chickadees are not strong fliers. Most of their flights are fewer than 16 yards, just a bit beyond the width of many of our lots here in Lauderdale. They really can’t undertake a long migration to escape winter.

When young chickadees have fledged and acquired all their flight feathers, they leave their home territory. They may travel several miles to find another existing flock to join. Once settled, they’ll remain in the same general area for the rest of their lives.

Chickadees are very sociable. Most of the chickadees we see in the winter have been here all summer. Winter chickadee flocks are made up of pairs from the prior breeding season, so a flock usually has a number of birds from two to 18 members. If there’s an odd number, the flock probably contains what’s called a “winter floater,” an unpaired bird that is hanging around waiting for an opening to pair up with a higher-ranked bird that has lost its mate.

Chickadees have a strict pecking order. You’ll recognize the dominant chickadee as the one that stays to open its seed at the feeder. The other chickadees will take a seed to a nearby perch to pick it open.

They’re about 5 inches long and weigh between 10 to 14 grams. The weight of two or three nectars. They have a black cap that comes down just over the eye that is complemented by a black bib. Between cap and bib is a white cheek and shoulder. There’s some buff in the sides and belly and some white in the otherwise gray wing.

Chickadees are not strong fliers. Most of their flights are fewer than 16 yards, just a bit beyond the width of many of our lots here in Lauderdale. They really can’t undertake a long migration to escape winter.

When young chickadees have fledged and acquired all their flight feathers, they leave their home territory. They may travel several miles to find another existing flock to join. Once settled, they’ll remain in the same general area for the rest of their lives.

Oriole chickadees may be part of a larger mixed flock that may contain white and red-breasted nuthatches, brown creepers and downy, hairy and red-bellied woodpeckers. These mixed flocks benefit their members by increasing the number of eyes watching for predators and finding more resources of food. These chickadees are usually the leaders of a mixed flock.

A chickadee must go to bed with a full stomach in order to make it through the cold winter night. That’s a challenge, because the winter days are shorter, with less daylight to gather what little food is available. So chickadees start to end their winter foraging at lower light levels than during the rest of the year.

They’ve also completely molted before winter, so they have all new feathers. They can fluff out their outer feathers, thus creating an insulation layer so effective that the skin can be 70˚F warmer than the air temperature.

But this puffy body may be part of the reason they can’t fly much more than 16 yards at a time. It’s not

Boy scouts and retirees team up to help the chimney swift roost

By Marcia Sundquist

At St. Paul Audubon meeting some months ago, I learned that the population of chimney swifts, a small black migrating bird, is in serious decline. The swifts depend on chimneys or similar tall structures in which to roost and to rear their young. There are fewer chimneys to roost and to rear their young. There are fewer chimneys, many of which have been capped. Thus, a population decline has set in.

At 1666, we await spring and some chimney swifts to discover the tower and to begin nesting. To encourage them, we will play a chimney swift recording in the tower so it sounds like home to them.

Marcia and Burt Sundquist stand near the chimney swift tower, where residents at 1666 Coffman hope the migratory birds will take up residence next spring. Photo by George Anderson
render some available homes “invisible” to agents not familiar with the area.

For instance, the homes on West Como Boulevard, with direct views of Como Lake and the park, currently will not show up for agents searching strictly for “Como,”” Korby said. “To find them, they would have to search North End/Como, which includes homes as far east as Rice Street and beyond.”

Several dozen homeowners responded to Korby’s alert, voicing a concern that their property values would be hurt by the new designation.

“We bought our house because of its proximity to the park, less than a half block away,” said Debby Prokopf, “and our appraisal noted that the proximity to the park greatly enhanced its value. This change radically hurts us and benefits no one else.”

Laurie Hartell, who lives across the street from the Ma’s Place property on North Woods, feels a strong connection with the area. “We have no plans to sell our house anytime soon and may never, and this will affect our property value,” she said. “This is the matter of community cohesiveness and neighborhood ties like we live on the park, we walk through the park daily. This is our neighborhood and I don’t appreciate a bunch of realtors deciding it’s not.”

The MLS listing says the changes here are part of a national effort to improve the usefulness and accuracy of a system in which historically up to 40 percent of properties have been misclassified, in some cases for periods as long as 10 years, with advantages.

“In the Twin Cities, the district system went back decades and basically was created by the newspapers as a means for grouping classified real estate ads,” he said. “As a technology- and data-based company, we needed to provide our real estate professional members with an easier and more relevant way to search for available homes.”

The MLS listing is not meant to be a marketing vehicle, nor is any competent appraiser going to let an MLS designation affect the value he or she places on a property. M. Eisey said.

“In deciding to go with the designations that municipalities and school districts have chosen, we hope that this would be a problem in St. Paul,” he added. “If there’s a valid reason for an adjustment in the new system, we can do that, but these are the neighborhoods that the City of St. Paul itself has designated.”

One option for disgruntled South Como residents would be to seek a change in the district council boundaries so that their neighborhood becomes part of District 10, rather than District 6. That will not be a simple matter, because such a transfer would affect funding formulas and have other implications and require deliberations by both district councils and the mayor, in consultation with the other 15 councils across the city.

However it plays out, the controversy about the MLS listings certainly seems to demonstrate that the old real estate adage about the importance of “location, location, location” is still right on the money.

Roger Berggren is a former newspaper reporter and longtime Como Park resident.

In my classroom, I give my students MCA-like multiple-choice tests the first week of the school year, and then half a block away,” said Debby Prokopf, “and our appraisal noted that the proximity to the park greatly enhanced its value. This change radically hurts us and benefits no one else.”

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**Holiday Happenings**

Here's your guide to all-things-December in Bugleland this month.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa (or two): And there will be Santa-sighting opportunities galore in St. Anthony Park this month: He'll pose for photographs with Mrs. Claus at Park Midway Bank, from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 3, then return to the neighborhood at 5 p.m. for a tree-lighting event in the Milton Square Courtyard, 2232 Carter Ave.

For more Holiday Happenings, just turn the page.

Photo at right by Lori Hamilton

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**Gibbs Museum**

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**Happy Holidays from your Good Neighbor**

2190 Como Avenue, St. Paul
St. Paul Parks and Recreation will host a dinner with Santa and Mrs. Claus on Friday, Dec. 9, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at Langford Park Recreation Center, 30 Langford Park. The event will include a spaghetti dinner, a craft project, cookie decorating and face-painting. Cost is $5 per person, with a $25 maximum per family. Ages 2 and under are free. Register at any St. Paul recreation center or call 651-298-5765. Register at www.stpaul.gov/parks.

Santa and his friend Christmas Carol will hold two nights of storytelling for children in the lower level of Milton Square, on Monday, Dec. 12 and 19, at 5 p.m. To find out more about the story times or to reserve a spot for this free event, send an email to miltonsquare2262@gmail.com.

SHOP HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS: St. Anthony Park neighborhood businesses kick off the season on Saturday, Dec. 3, with merchant specials, carolers, reindeer-pulled sleigh rides and Santa photo-ops at Park Midway Bank, a wine-tasting at the little wine shoppe, an artisan market at Milton Square, at the corner of Como and Carter avenues, and cookie decorating at Tim and Tom’s Speedy Market. Shop at Micawber’s Books, 2238 Carter Ave., that day and a portion of your purchases will go to St. Anthony Park Elementary School.

NEW THIS YEAR: Costumed interpreters from Gibbs Museum will host a beeswax candle-making workshop at Bungalow Pottery in Milton Square from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Participants will make a hand-dipped candle that they can take home.

BLUE HOUSE BOUTIQUE: Check out this unique boutique on Saturday, Dec. 3, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 4, from 9 a.m. to noon, at St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church. The boutique is a major fundraiser for the Blue House, an orphanage in Uganda that was started by the late Beatrice Garubanda, a native of Uganda who had lived in St. Anthony Park. The sale features handmade items, including knits, crafts, cards, gifts, table centerpieces, ornaments, gourmet food and more. Saturday’s sale features a homemade lunch (from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.), coffee and pastries.

HOLIDAY CONCERT: The North Star Chorus and Lake Country Chorus combine voices to bring you a delightful program of seasonal singing. The concert will be held at 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4, at Roselville Lutheran Church, 1215 Roselawn Ave. W., Roseville. Ticket prices are $10 for adults and $5 for children 12 and under, with a $30 maximum per family. More information is available online at northstarchorus.org.

HOLIDAY TEA AND TOUR: Warm up at an afternoon garden tea Friday, Dec. 9, in the North Garden at Como Park’s Marjorie McNeely Conservatory. There will be two seatings for the three-course tea, one at 11 a.m. and one at 2 p.m. The tea will be followed by a behind-the-scenes tour of the conservatory. Tickets cost $45. Reservations are required. Call 651-487-8250.

VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS TEA AND “A CHRISTMAS CAROL”: Actor Luke Peterson is back at Lady Elegant’s Tea Room, 2230 Carter Ave., with his one-man show of Charles Dickens’ “A Christmas Carol” on two Saturdays, Dec. 11 and 18. There will be a performance each Saturday at 2 p.m. and a tea at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 18. The tea will be followed by a behind-the-scenes tour of the conservatory. Tickets cost $43 per person. More information is available online at ladyelegants-tea.com.
be two seatings each day, at 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. The multi-course tea includes Ebenezer Scrooge’s cheddar soup, eggnog scones, Mrs. Fezziwig’s English trifle and Mrs. Cratchit’s plum pudding. Cost is $45. Prepaid reservations are required. Call Lady Elegant’s at 651-645-6676.

“MESSIAH” SING-ALONG: You can get your hallelujahs on Sunday, Dec. 18, at Como Park Lutheran Church, 1376 Hoyt Ave. W., for a Handel’s “Messiah” Sing-along that starts at 3 p.m. The concert will feature Karen Wilkerson, soprano; Nicole Warner, alto; Brad Bradshaw, tenor; and Mr. and Mrs. Schmidt, bass. Pianist Michael Santoro and a string quartet will accompany. The church encourages both singers and listeners to attend.

FREE HOLIDAY DANCE PERFORMANCES: Join the Sugar Plum Fairy and Falcon Heights’ Out on a Limb Dance Company and School as they perform scenes from “The Nutcracker” each Wednesday from Nov. 30 to Dec. 21, at Rosedale Center in Macy’s Court. Performances are every 30 minutes starting at 5:30 p.m. The last performance is at 7 p.m.

FIFTEEN HUNDRED POUNDS OF SAUSAGE: That’s how much Tim Faacks at Tim & Tom’s Speedy Market, 2310 Como Ave. W., cranks out of his signature Christmas sausage each year. He’s been mincing meat since just after Halloween and plans to keep the stuff in stock through New Year’s Day. The secret recipe for the Christmas sausage was handed down to Faacks by the Lindquist family, whose patriarch, Harry, was a butcher in Minneapolis from the 1920s to the 1960s. His daughter Charlotte Lindquist Hansen, raised her family in St. Anthony Park. She is the mother of residents Dave and Mark Hansen.

CHRISTMAS ON THE FARM: Gibbs Museum will host A Country Christmas for three Saturdays in December: Dec. 3, 10 and 17, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Cost is $8 for adults, $7 for seniors and $5 for children.

ICE, FROST AND FLOWERS: Walk through a wonderland of hundreds of site-grown poinsettias at the Como conservatory’s annual Holiday Flower Show, which opens Saturday, Dec. 3. This year, the Sunken Garden will feature an ice-and-frost theme showcasing the cultivars Ice Punch, Ice Crystals, Ruby Frost and Red Glitter. The conservatory will also display five red poinsettia cultivars that are new to the market: Protégé Dark Red, Viking Red, Encore, Bravo Bright Red and Jubilee Red. Dusty Miller plants, which often resemble snowflakes, will be interspersed to add to the display. The conservatory will be open on Dec. 4 from 8 to 10 a.m. for individuals and families to use the setting as a backdrop for photos before hours. At a cost of $5 per person, guests can bring in their cameras and find the perfect spot for their holiday photo.

The Holiday Flower Show tradition began in 1925 and continues to be the most visited flower attraction at the conservatory today. The show will run from Dec. 3 to Jan. 22. The conservatory is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Both the Como Park Zoo and the conservatory are open 365 days a year.

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For thousands of years people have experimented with various forms of lighting. For centuries, people made lamps in which they burned olive, fish and nut oils. The invention of the candle dates back to the fifth century A.D., when candles were widely used for Christian religious ceremonies.

In the 1800s, many pioneer women made their own candles. Most common were candles made from tallow, a substance rendered from cow or sheep fat. When burned, tallow candles emitted smoke and had a bad smell. Pioneers also used Betty lamps thought to have been brought to America by German immigrants. A wick was placed in the iron holder, which was then filled with bacon fat.

Beeswax candles were introduced to Europe in the Middle Ages. Beeswax is made by honeybees for the construction of their honeycomb, the chambers in which they store honey. Worker bees secrete the wax from glands, scrape it off their hind legs, chew it and then add it to the comb structure.

Beeswax candles were a big improvement over tallow candles. They were dripless, smokeless and had a sweet honey smell. It was expensive to purchase beeswax, however, so unless pioneer women kept bees, this type of candle was a luxury most pioneer families could rarely afford.

Whether women used tallow or beeswax, candle-dipping was a long and tedious process, usually done in the fall when women made the supply for an entire year, perhaps 500 candles. The tallow or beeswax was melted in large kettles; wicks were attached to sticks and dipped in the wax 12 to 15 times. The candles were air-cured and stored for future use.

By the mid-1800s, advances in the manufacture of candle wicking and the development of materials, such as stearin and paraffin made better and cheaper candles available for household use. Kerosene lamps became popular in the 1860s, when oil drilling began. These advances meant that most women no longer made their own candles.

Visitors to Gibbs Museum make more than 7,500 beeswax candles each year. The site purchases more than 300 pounds of wax annually from local beekeepers. Before candles can be dipped, each 40-pound block of beeswax is melted, strained to remove impurities and bee parts, poured into sheet pans to harden and then broken into small pieces that are easily melted.

Terry Swanson is the program coordinator at Gibbs Museum. Learn how to make beeswax candles at Dec. 3 workshop: Gibbs Museum will host a free, hands-on candle-making workshop on Saturday, Dec. 3, at Ken Chin-Purcell’s Bungalow Pottery in Milton Square, at the corner of Como and Carter avenues in St. Anthony Park. Costumed interpreters from Gibbs will assist with making beeswax candles from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Find out more about the history of candlemaking below.

Terry Swanson is the program coordinator at Gibbs Museum.
Bugle cookbook features fabulous festive fare

What's December without food? We put out a call for winter recipes from our readers and we received a number of treasured how-tos, ranging from potato latkes to Scandinavian specialties to dog biscuits. You can find those recipes online at www.parkbugle.org in a handy file that you can print out and use in your own kitchen: The Best-Ever Park Bugle Winter Holiday Cookbook.

Here are several recipes to whet your appetite.

**Potato Latkes—A Chanukah treat**
The smell of hot oil makes the house feel like Chanukah. I have never met anyone of any religion who does not love these Potato Latkes.

— Judy Ann Ehrlich, Como Park

**INGREDIENTS:**
- Vegetable oil, for frying
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- 1 Tbsp. flour
- 1/4 tsp. pepper
- 1 tsp. salt
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 2 Tbsp. chopped onion
- 4 large red potatoes

**DIRECTIONS:**
Grate the potatoes with skins on, using a hand grater or food processor. Drain as much juice as possible. Add onion, eggs, salt, pepper, flour and baking powder. Drop by well-rounded tablespoons into hot oil in a skillet. Fry on both sides until golden brown. Drain on paper towels. Serve with a dollop of applesauce or sour cream.

Serves 6

**Rosettes**
My cousin Linnea and I made Swedish rosettes every Christmas season in her Stillwater kitchen. Our fathers were brothers and their parents emigrated from Sweden. When we were younger, Linnea and I celebrated holidays together on our family farms. We used this recipe from the 1966 Zion Lutheran Centennial Cookbook, published by the Swedish congregation in which we were baptized, confirmed and married. Dorothy Peterson, my choir director and high school Sunday school teacher, submitted the recipe. I recommend using a fryer with a thermostat to easily maintain the right temperature.

— Linda M. Manquist, St. Anthony Park

**INGREDIENTS:**
- 2 eggs
- 1 Tbsp. sugar
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 1 cup milk
- 1 cup flour

**DIRECTIONS:** Beat eggs slightly with sugar and salt; add milk and flour. Beat only until smooth. For best results, fry in a deep kettle. Heat iron in the fat. Remove iron and tap it twice on several thicknesses of flannel to remove excess fat. Dip hot iron quickly into batter. Do not let batter come up over the top of the iron. Return batter-covered iron to fat and completely submerge in the fat for 20 to 30 seconds. When fried, tip iron upside down for an instant to drain. Push rosette from iron with a piece of clean cheesecloth. Dust to 30 seconds. When fried, tip iron upside down for an instant to drain.

**HINTS:**
1. Blisters indicate that eggs have been beaten too much.
2. If rosette falls off, iron was not deep enough in fat.
3. If rosette does not come off easily, it is not fried enough.
4. If rosettes aren't crisp, they have been fried too fast.
5. Be sure to wipe excess fat from iron each time before dipping.

Serves 6

**Sven and Ole's Swedish Christmas Porridge**
We have this porridge for Christmas breakfast. It's a traditional Swedish Christmas porridge called Skånsk Gröt (SKONE-sk groot). It always takes longer than expected and holds up breakfast, so we have lots of time to open presents.

—the recipe came from the American Girl Kirsten's Cookbook. We've used it ever since our girls first got their dolls. Oh, and Sven and Ole are Santas' elves who visit our house throughout the year. They love to play in dollhouses and leave notes for the girls.

— Rita LaDoux, St. Anthony Park

**INGREDIENTS:**
- 1 large, firm apple
- 1 tsp. butter
- 1 cup white rice (Barmaid)
- 1 cup water
- 3-inch cinnamon stick
- 4 cups milk
- 3 Tbsp. brown sugar
- 1/3 cup raisins
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- Cream
- Honey

**DIRECTIONS:**
1. Blisters indicate that eggs have been beaten too much.
2. If rosette falls off, iron was not deep enough in fat.
3. If rosette does not come off easily, it is not fried enough.
4. If rosettes aren't crisp, they have been fried too fast.
5. Be sure to wipe excess fat from iron each time before dipping.

**HINTS:**
- Serves 6

**BBQ Spareribs**

— Richard N. Peryam, Lauderdale

**INGREDIENTS:**
- 4 lbs. country-style ribs
- 1 lemon, sliced
- 1 Tbsp. brown sugar
- 1 medium onion, sliced
- 1/2 Tbsp. Worcestershire sauce
- 1/2 tsp. chili sauce
- 1/2 tsp. paprika
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- Lemon pepper

**DIRECTIONS:**

**NOTE:**
- It keeps well and makes great leftovers!
**December Events**

Venue information is listed at the end of the calendar. Send your events to calendar@parkbugle.org by Dec. 7 to be included in the January issue.

1 **THURSDAY**
   - Parent-child playtime, 9:15-10:30 a.m., for children 4 and younger, every Thursday, Langford Recreation Center. Free.

2 **FRIDAY**
   - Preschool storytime, every Friday except Dec. 23, 10:30-11:30 a.m., St. Anthony Park Library.

3 **SATURDAY**
   - Zion Fall Bazaar, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church.
   - Shop Home for the Holidays, St. Anthony Park Library, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
   - Artisan Village, lower level, Milton Square, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
   - Vendor pulled-sleigh rides, meet Santa and Mrs. Claus, 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Park Midway Bank.
   - Gibbs Museum candle-making at Bungalow Pottery, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
   - A Country Christmas, Gibbs Museum, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
   - Blue House Boutique, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church.
   - Sculpting, 1-3 p.m., the little wine shoppe.
   - Rendez-vous Mosaics, the little wine shoppe, 2-4 p.m.

7 **WEDNESDAY**
   - Open computer lab, every Wednesday, 1-3:30 p.m., St. Anthony Park Library.
   - English conversation circle, every Wednesday, 4-5:30 p.m., St. Anthony Park Library.

11 **SATURDAY**
   - A Country Christmas, Gibbs Museum, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
   - Be Well As You Age Film Series, “Five Wishes” and a living-will seminar, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., St. Anthony Park Library.

12 **MONDAY**
   - Food and Wine Tasting, 3-5 p.m., Langford Recreation Center.
   - Storytime with Santa and Christmas Carol, 5 p.m., Langford Recreation Center.

13 **TUESDAY**
   - Block Nurse Exercise, 11:30 a.m., Block Nurse Exercise, 825 Seal St., 12:30-1:30 p.m.
   - Fairview Community Center, 3:30-5 p.m., Tuesdays and Fridays.

14 **WEDNESDAY**
   - Mozart’s Coronation Mass performed by Chancel Choir and orchestra, 10:30 a.m., Falcon Heights United Church of Christ.

15 **THURSDAY**
   - Falcons Card Club, 12 p.m., Falcon Heights City Hall.
   - Storytime with Santa and Christmas Carol, 5 p.m., Langford Park.

18 **SUNDAY**
   - “Country Angel Christmas” children’s pageant, 10:30 a.m., Falcon Heights United Church of Christ.

**Sunday Afternoon Reading Group,** *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak, 2:30 p.m., Micawber’s Books.

23 **FRIDAY**
   - The St. Anthony Park Library will be closed Dec. 23-26.

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**
- Bungalow Pottery, 2230 Carter Ave., 651-644-4091
- Como Park Lutheran Church, 1376 Hoyt Ave. W., 651-646-7117
- Fairview Community Center, 1910 West County Road B, Roseville
- Falcon Heights United Church of Christ, 1795 Holton St., 651-644-5050
- Falcon Heights United Church of Christ, 1785 Holton St., 646-4681
- Gibbs Museum, 2097 Larpenteur Ave., 651-644-8629
- Fairview Community Center, 30 Langford Park, 651-298-5765
- The little wine shoppe, 2236 Carter Ave., 651-645-5178
- Micawber’s Books, 2298 Park Ave., 651-646-5306
- Mistletoe Hall, 2232 Carter Ave., miltosegare206@gmail.com
- Park Midway Bank, 2300 Como Ave., 651-223-7800
- St. Anthony Park Branch Library, 2245 Como Ave., 651-642-0411
- St. Anthony Park Library, 2323 Como Ave., 651-645-0371
- St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church, 2326 Carter Ave., 651-223-7800
- Women’s Drum Center, 2242 University Ave. W., 651-206-7617
- Zion Lutheran Church, 1697 Lafond Ave., 651-645-0371
- Zion Lutheran Church, 1697 Lafond Ave., 651-645-051

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**Visit the Artisans at Milton Square**

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- Girl Scout Troop 50375: Jewelry and Paper Goods
- Jane Hakenem: Minnow, Squaw, Pine Cone Kerling Balls
- I Made This Children’s Make-Your-Own-Bead Kits
- Holly Ardis: Mosaic Designs, Enameled Beads, Beads
- Kristal Leebick: High-Fire Stoneware & Porcelain
- Jean Manrique: Felted Bags and Accessories
- Courtney Olsen: Pottery
- Lory Lee: Pottery, Custom-Sewn Home Décor
- Jean Schacht: Kissing Balls
- Sunset Designs: Lynn Heigl: Jewelry
- Katie Tomsic: Custom-Sewn Home Décor
- Ruth Welczi: Framed Fused Mosaics & Paper Mache Friends

**Saturday, December 3, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m.**
City champ
Northwest Como's 12U girls soccer team (pictured above) won the city championship in the Silver Division. 31 To date, 11 of the Robyn Anderson, Eric Erickson and Eric Beckman, the team's players include Isabel Anderson, Ruby Beckman, Alyssa Clark, Anna Erickson, Emma Gott, Sophia Houam, Margaret and Natalie Jeren, Madeleine McPhee, Abigail Moen, Lena Walczak and Cecelia Wulf. The 14U girls soccer team, coached by Josh Rhode, won the City Runner-Up title.

Wulff. The 14U girls soccer team, coached by Josh Rhode, won the Madeleine McPhee, Abigail Moseman, Elena Walczak and Cecelia Wulf. The 14U girls soccer team, coached by Josh Rhode, won the City Runner-Up title.

A girl and her giraffe
Last month, we published a piece about a whimsical notice that had been posted on a lightpole in the St. Anthony Park neighborhood about a stuffed animal that had been found on the street.

“We received this photo and note from the parents of the child who lost her playmate (the family wished to remain anonymous):”

“My husband and I were looking through the most recent issue of the Park Bugle and came across the ‘Lost and Found’ notice in the ‘Neighbors’ section. We started laughing because we realized this was our giraffe.

“We frequently take our now 15-month-old daughter on evening walks. Usually we notice when she chucks things out of the stroller, but somehow we missed this one. On this particular night we had walked a slightly different route than usual, so when we retraced our steps the next day we couldn’t remember exactly where we were. We gave up any hope of recovering the giraffe. Thanks to the notice from the [Barbara and Gordon] Murdoch, our little giraffe had been reunited with her friend.”

City champs Northwest Como’s 12U girls soccer team (pictured above) won the city championship in the Silver Division. 31 To date, 11 of the Robyn Anderson, Eric Erickson and Eric Beckman, the team’s players include Isabel Anderson, Ruby Beckman, Alyssa Clark, Anna Erickson, Emma Gott, Sophia Houam, Margaret and Natalie Jeren, Madeleine McPhee, Abigail Moen, Lena Walczak and Cecelia Wulf. The 14U girls soccer team, coached by Josh Rhode, won the City Runner-Up title.

Wulff. The 14U girls soccer team, coached by Josh Rhode, won the Madeleine McPhee, Abigail Moseman, Elena Walczak and Cecelia Wulf. The 14U girls soccer team, coached by Josh Rhode, won the City Runner-Up title.

A girl and her giraffe
Last month, we published a piece about a whimsical notice that had been posted on a lightpole in the St. Anthony Park neighborhood about a stuffed animal that had been found on the street.

“We received this photo and note from the parents of the child who lost her playmate (the family wished to remain anonymous):”

“My husband and I were looking through the most recent issue of the Park Bugle and came across the ‘Lost and Found’ notice in the ‘Neighbors’ section. We started laughing because we realized this was our giraffe.

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Luther Seminary plants tree for Reformation project
On Oct. 31, which is Reformation Day for Lutherans, Luther Seminary became the eighth U.S. sponsor to take part in a worldwide garden project that will commemorate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, which takes place in 2017.

The project, a Luther Garden, began in Wittenberg, Germany, where 500 trees will be planted. In conjunction, 500 trees are being planted worldwide, marking the widespread influence and significance of the Reformation. The project was initiated by Lutheran World Federation in Geneva.

Luther Seminary planted an oak tree on campus at the same time a tree was being planted in Wittenberg. The Luther Seminary tree was placed near a newly installed rain garden and will be marked with a plaque honoring the significance of the Reformation and the Luther Garden project.

In addition to the tree planting at Luther Seminary, 13 other trees were planted around the world on Oct. 31. Of the 500 total trees, 102 have been planted. When the project is complete, worldwide sponsors will have planted 1,000 trees.

To learn more about the Luther Garden project, go to http://lutheranpr.de/english.

Birding in the Falklands
St. Paul Audubon will host “Birding Area of the Falkland Islands” on Tuesday, Dec. 5, at 7 p.m. at the Fairview Community Center, 1910 West County Road B, Roseville.

Presented by Michael Prokosch, retired research chemist at 3M, the presentation will include a photo journey to the Falkland Islands along with a discussion of the history and geography of these interesting and historic islands, located 300 miles from the southern tip of Argentina in the South Atlantic Ocean. Prokosch has recently returned from his latest trip to the islands.

The event is open to the public with free parking. A social time with refreshments begins at 6:45 p.m. For more information, call Linda Goodspeed at 651-647-1452.

December film showing will address living wills
St. Anthony Park Area Seniors will feature the film Five Wishes and a seminar on living wills on Saturday, Dec. 10, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., at the St. Anthony Park Branch Library, 2245 Como Ave.

Speaker Jeanne McGill, a certified senior advisor and planning consultant, will discuss how to start and structure a living will, which meets the legal requirements in 42 states, including Minnesota.
You can find out more about the Saint Paul Almanac at www.saintpaulalmanac.com.

Register now for lessons at Como Park Ski Center.

The City of St. Paul Parks and Recreation Department is now accepting registrations for snowboard, cross-country and downhill ski lessons at the Como Park Ski Center. Participants can register at the park and recreation website, www.sport.sp.gov/parks.

The Como Park Ski Center, 1431 N. Loring Parkway, opens pre-season (weather permitting) on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 17 and 18 and opens for holiday hours on Monday, Dec. 26. The center features 1.7K of lighted cross-country ski trails for beginner-level skiing and 5K of intermediate or advanced-level groomed classic and skate-style cross-country trails. Como Park also has snow machines creating fresh powder daily and four lighted town squares for twilight activities. The center’s chuk chuk offers food service, downhill and cross-country ski rental services and can be rented by professional instructors.

You can contact the center starting Dec. 17 at 651-488-9673.

Amnesty International group to meet Dec. 27

Interested in human rights? Attend the St. Paul Chapter of Amnesty International’s next meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 27th, at 7 p.m. at Como’s Coffee, 189 Snelling Ave. All are welcome.

Contact Carmela Gartanito, gartanito@gmail.com or 651-562-5607, for more information about the group.

Senior skating weekly at Roseville Ice Arena

Seniors can spend Wednesdays skating at the Roseville Ice Arena, 2661 Lakeview Drive. The arena is reserved for seniors from 11:30 to 2:45 p.m. Cost is $4 per session and a limited number of skates are available. Any questions, call 651-792-7007 for more information.

There are still basketball openings at Langford

Langford Recreation, 30 Langford Park, still has room on its 6u and 8u basketball teams. The 6u team (ages 5 and 6) opens Monday, Dec. 9, at 6:30 p.m. The 8u team (grades 1 and 2) will begin practicing in December. Games will be on Saturdays starting in January. Cost is $35. Register at 111.sp.gov/parks or stop by the rec center.

Langford offers classes in Pilates and Soo Bahk Do

An intermediate-intermediate Pilates four-session class taught by Fran Oulette will meet Thursdays, Dec. 1 to Jan. 5, from 11 a.m. to noon at Como’s Coffee, 189 Snelling Ave. All are welcome.

Contact Carmela Gartanito, gartanito@gmail.com or 651-562-5607, for more information about the class.

Baseball camp at Hamline

Hamline University is hosting a six-week baseball camp starting Jan. 7 in conjunction with U.S. Baseball Academy.

Classes are available for players in grades 1-12 and are limited to six players per coach.

Sessions will be offered in advanced hitting, pitching, catching, fielding and base running.

Cost is $59 for six weeks. Space is limited. Registration is now under way.

To find out more go to www.USBaseballAcademy.com or call 651-292-3320 and a volunteer informational packet will be mailed to you.

Winter sports

If you would like to become a volunteer, contact DiAne Lewis at 651-292-3320 and a volunteer informational packet will be mailed to you.

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Allen Hoggart offers Soo Bahk Do classes for youth and adults at Langford on Thursdays, starting Dec. 1. The youth class, for ages 5 to 15, will be held from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. Sessions are ongoing and the cost is $45 per month. The adult class is held from 6:30 to 8 p.m. for ages 16 and older. As with the youth class, sessions are ongoing. The cost is $35 a month. Contact Hoggart for more information, 651-360-3787.

Landmark seeks volunteers

Landmark Center is seeking volunteers to work as tour guides or help staff the information center. The gift shop and special events.

Orientation and training for all positions are regularly scheduled. Recognition events, parking and bus reimbursements and a 10 percent discount in the gift shop are offered to all volunteers working in the building.

If you would like to become a volunteer, contact ‘DiAne Lewis at 651-292-3320 and a volunteer informational packet will be mailed to you.

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To find out more go to www.USBaseballAcademy.com or call 651-292-4487.
Hampden Park has new director, more space and a master plan

By Anne Holzman

Three years go, Hampden Park Co-op opened its expanded first-floor space to a whirlwind. The Parkview Cafe had closed, the Odd Fellows moved out of the building they had owned for more than a century, and the co-op staff and board faced the big decision as to whether or not to become a property owner.

They took the plunge. A big indoor wall came down. The store expanded and a year later the transformation looked complete. But that’s only the start a passersby can see. The building, located at 328 Raymond Ave., requires some behind-the-scenes work to earn its keep as a commercial property. And with a new director in place and a plan in hand, the co-op staff and board have begun thinking in terms of years and even decades.

Last summer, the board adopted a master plan that sets investment priorities, such as repairing walls and windows, making the second floor more accessible and improving energy efficiency.

The plan considers the rapidly shifting neighborhood around the co-op. Construction for traffic calming on Raymond Avenue is expected to pose a challenge in 2013, and everyone is keeping an eye on Central Corridor development, which will hasten the store sales as streets are closed but could offer new marketing opportunities once the line is open.

The board also welcomed a new general manager this year. Kari Neathery brings to the co-op her leadership experience at Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association and the West Broadway Area Coalition, along with master’s degrees in hospital administration and urban planning.

Neathery lives in the Hamlin M Loday neighborhood and has two school-age daughters.

Despite the tough economy and the growing competition from chain stores, Neathery is optimistic about Hampden Park’s co-op’s viability in its current location.

“The opportunity is great now for co-op grocers,” Neathery said, “because of the interest in local foods, neighborhood shopping, people liking their bikes. I think people look to co-ops for that leadership.”

And while many co-op grocers from the 1970s have closed or adopted more traditional business models, Neathery said, HPC remains committed to using volunteers who earn a monthly discount in exchange for work.

Kari Neathery is Hampden Park Co-op’s new general manager. Photo by Kristal Leebrick

The co-op now aims for $7,000 per day in sales. Membership numbers have been “pretty stable” in recent years, she said.

Architect Paul Ormseth, a co-op member, said the neighborhood has joined the co-op leadership to consider more ambitious remodeling and expansion—although expansion is limited by the size of the existing lot, and the price of the neighboring parcel has so far been too high for co-op leadership to consider.

The co-op is looking for tenants for upstairs office or studio space, as well as for first-floor space on Raymond Avenue, which was briefly occupied earlier this year by a business selling vitamins.

The Oak Floor Dance

Hampden Park to 21
Walter Beran
Walter J. Beran, 92, died on Oct. 18. Wally was born in West St. Paul and graduated from Cretin High School in 1943. He retired from Webb Publishing in 1984. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Eunice; two sons, Dave (Deb) and Dan (Terry); a daughter, Kathy; seven grandchildren; and Dan (Terri); a daughter, Kathy.

Mary Catholic Church, with celebration at Maternity of Marschel; seven grandchildren; and Dan (Terri); a daughter, Kathy.

Kathy was born in West St. Paul and

Wally was born in West St. Paul and

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Oct. 21 at St. Anthony Park to assume duties as an officer in the Army during World War II. He was stationed in England for part of that time. Eugene was a graduate of St. Olaf College, Luther Seminary, and the University of Chicago Divinity School and also completed post-graduate studies at Harvard and Princeton. In 1954–55, he was a Fulbright Scholar in Norway. Eugene was a recognized authority and author on religion in the United States, particularly on Norwegian-American Lutheranism. He was preceded in death by his wife, Dorothy; a brother, Norman; a sister-in-law, Lolly; and a brother-in-law, Lester M. Ikelien. He is survived by his children, Constance (William Durland), Karen (Hary) M. aber, John (Joan) Koepke and David (Patricia M.) M. nine grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; sister; Doris M. Ikelien; and brothers, Richard (June) and Joseph (Ann) M.

Martin's funeral was held Nov. 3, with interment at Roselawl Cemetery.

Marie Haff
Marie L. Haff, née Snell, 77, formerly of St. Anthony Park, died Oct. 31, in Altoona, Minn., with her family at her side. Marie loved antiques, the outdoors, coffee and conversation with close friends. She was preceded in death by her husband, Allan Haff. She is survived by her children, Caroline Franklin, Melissa Strom, Douglas M. and Gregory M. Haff; grandchildren; two sisters, Janice and Barbara; and a brother, John.

Memorial Mass of Christian was celebrated Nov. 7 at Holy Child Lutheran Church, with interment at Sunset Memorial Park.

Billiard Smith
Hillard E. Smith, 77, died Oct. 28, in Falcon Heights. Hillard died after a long battle with lung cancer, COPD, heart problems and other chronic illnesses. Hillard, known by friends as "Mr. Munchy," moved to Falcon Heights in 1965. He served as a paratrooper in the U.S. Army 127th Airborne from 1952 to 1955. He was a journeyman carpenter and well known in the area. He built and repaired many concrete walls and sidewalks and performed the remodeling work for Park residents.

He is survived by his sister, Catherine Hoban Birtz of Arizona, along with a niece and nephew and three nephews.

The family thanks the supportive staff at St. Anthony Park Home, nurses from St. Anthony Park Area Seniors and MInnesota Hospice and Palliative Care. They leaned the pain and kept him comfortable during his last months.

Interment was at Fort Snellin National Cemetery on Nov. 3.

Donald Thalhuber
Donald G. Thalhuber, 82, died Oct. 25. He was a Korean War veteran and a member of the international Association of Machinists.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Mary M. Gau; Thalhuber; brothers, Arthur and James; and sisters, Dorothy Sokol, Bernice Gau and M. Jane Savel; He is survived by his sons, Peter and Kevin (Sheila); daughter, Lianne (Bruce) Weisz; brother, Richard (Beverly); and three grandchildren.

Mars of Christian Burial was celebrated Oct. 31 at St. Mary in Falcon Heights, with entombment at Calvary Cemetery.

Jerome Young
Jerome “Jerry” Young, 85, lifelong Como Park resident, died Nov. 6. He was preceded in death by his son, John; sister, Phyllis M. Merten; and brother, Jim. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Rosemary "Roe;" children, Tim (Dalcly), Mary (Mike) Cavanagh, Dan (Christine), Sue (Jim) Dorfner, Jerry (Ronald), Claire (Dan) Solom, Beth (Greg) Tegdach, Tony (Ann), Joe (Diane) and Chris (Cheryl); 38 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; and sisters, Bill, Chuck, Barbara Guettler and Annette Johnson.

Mars of Christian Burial was celebrated Nov. 10 at St. Mary Catholic Church, with interment at Fort Snelling National Cemetery.

The Park Bugle prints obituaries free of charge as a service to our communities. Send information about area deaths to Mary Mergenthal at mary.mergenthal@comcast.net or call 651-644-1650.

LIVES LIVED

Community Worship Directory

COMO PARK LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA
www.comoparklutheran.org
1370 Hugh St. at Garvin, 651-644-2002
Wednesday: 6:00 p.m. service
Sunday: 8:30 a.m. worship
Commemoration, 1st Sunday of the Month
9:15 a.m., faith formation class for all ages
Dec. 1-7 Thursday: 6:30 p.m. World Aids Day service
Dec. 4 - 10:30 a.m., Advent Festival: worship, crafts, potluck and carols
Dec. 8 - 7:00 p.m., Advent Chancel Choir concert
Dec. 15 - 10:30 a.m., Churchwide Christmas Brunch and Market: 9-11 a.m.
Dec. 16 - 10:00 a.m., annual children's pageant: Country Angel Christmas
Dec. 21 - 3:00 p.m., Blue Christmas Service
Dec. 22 - 4:00 p.m., Christmas Eve service and pageant: Country Angel Christmas
Dec. 25 - 10:00 a.m., Christmas Day worship and service with readings
Dec. 30 - 5:30 p.m., Open and Affirming Job Peace Church: handicap accessible
HOLY CHILDHOOD CATHOLIC CHURCH
1435 3rd St. W. Park St., St. Paul, MN 55104 Handicap Accessible
Phone: 651-644-7127, www.holychildhood.com
Sunday Masses: Saturday 5:00 p.m., Sunday 7:45 and 10 a.m.
Dec. 25 – No worship
Dec. 24 – 4:30 p.m., Christmas Eve service and pageant: Country Angel Christmas
Dec. 15 – 10:30 a.m., Homeless march and memorial service, Minneapolis; call for details
Dec. 11 – 10:30 a.m., Chancel Choir concert: Mozart’s Coronation Mass
Dec. 8 – 7:00 p.m., Juncture One alternative worship
Dec. 4 – 10:30 a.m., Advent Festival: worship, crafts, potluck and carols
Dec. 1 (Thursday) – 7 p.m., World AIDS Day service
Sundays: 10:30 a.m. worship
Communion, 1st Sunday of the Month
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Business News from 19

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Satori Photography will open its doors in Milton Square on Dec. 3 during the St. Anthony Park business district’s Shop Home for the Holidays event. Photographers Vanessa Carrara and Sharri Keller founded Satori Photography in 2008. “‘Satori,’ meaning ‘instant awakening’ or ‘a moment of intuitive enlightenment,’ represents what we yearn to capture for our clients,” Carrara said. Satori Photography specializes in child and family portraiture as well as wedding and commercial photography. Carrara and Keller plan to have the grand opening of their shop in January. You can find out more about them at www.satoriphotography.com

Tom Fisher, dean of the University of Minnesota’s College of Design, and Renee Cheng, head of the college’s Department of Architecture, have been recognized as two of the top 25 most-admired design educators for 2012 by DesignIntelligence (DI) magazine. DI selects educators from the disciplines of architecture, interior design, industrial design and landscape architecture who exemplify excellence in design education leadership. The graduate programs for landscape architecture and interior design were also ranked among the most admired of their kind in the country. This is the fourth time Fisher has received this recognition (2008–2010), and the second time for Cheng (2011). It is a unique distinction for two faculty members from the same institution to be on the top-25 list at the same time.

Fisher is a leader in the public-interest design movement and a longtime researcher and advocate for using design to tackle the major economic, environmental and societal challenges facing the world. Recognized as one of the most published academics in his field, Fisher is the author of six books, 45 book chapters and more than 250 major articles. He is new book, due out in early 2013, is titled: Designing to Avoid Disaster: The Nature of Fracture-Critical Design.

Cheng has led the School of Architecture in a direction that builds upon its successful undergraduate and graduate degree programs in order to take advantage of new opportunities in the design and architectural professions. For example, the school’s flagship, the professional M. Arch degree, was restructured to allow three distinct and complementary types of design studio teaching: large fall studios with integrated technical courses; changeable spring options configured to dive deeply into critical topics; one-week catalyst workshops that address issues not commonly seen in architecture programs, from tackling urgent needs in society to using new media or emerging technologies. This program is one of only two in the country recognized by the Fulbright scholars program for its excellence.

Hampden Park from 19

Association has been renting space for many years, which accounts for the thumping sometimes heard in the store below. Neathery noted that while Central Corridor construction has at times drained dollars from the store by limiting traffic along Raymond, development nearby is generally a good thing as long as it produces more customers.

The development presents some marketing opportunities, according to Ormseth. “The co-op wants to hold onto the character of the store and the community feeling,” he said. “At the same time, we want to improve the experience of new shoppers.”

The co-op offers more than just good-quality food, Neathery said. “Our staff has been here for a long time,” she said. “There’s a really high level of expertise.”

Anne Hvizdak is a freelance writer who lives in St. Anthony Park and a member of Hampden Park Co-op.
School News

Murray Wolf Ridge leaders Fiona Steen, Malik Murray and Annellia Anderson. The classes taught by students at the environmental camp focus on cultures specific to the Murray Junior High School community. Photos by Tim Chaise.

‘We are more alike than different’

Murray’s culture classes a tradition at Wolf Ridge environmental camp

By Kristal Leebrick

When Murray Junior High School sends 72 seventh- and eighth-graders up to Wolf Ridge environmental learning center in Finland each November, those students learn about more than northern Minnesota ecosystem and natural history. They learn about each other.

The students spend five days taking classes on subjects such as wetland ecology, geology, orientering and animals signs. But four 30-minute sessions that week are devoted to classes that teach the students about the variety of cultures that make up their own school’s environment. Those classes are taught by the 18 sixth-graders chosen to be the student leaders for the trip.

“We are more alike than different,” is a theme that has carried through the decades-long tradition of going to Wolf Ridge said Tim Chase, science teacher and one of Murray’s Wolf Ridge coordinators.

Teaching students about the variety of people in their community helps “a kid see that the student sitting next to him or her is different but the same,” Chase said. “‘They celebrate they have special foods. We are different but alike. We are more alike than different.”

Murray students have made the trek to northern Minnesota since the 1970s, back when Wolf Ridge was Lake Isabella and was called the Environmental Learning Center. Once led by now-retired special education teacher Phyllis Bates and the late Ann Bulger, volunteer coordinator at Murray, theirs is now led by Chase and English teacher Carrie Bittner about 17 years ago.

“They think about being a single person, thinking about more than northern Minnesota. What is Eastern European and Hispanic cultures? What is the difference?” Chase said.

The cost of the trip for each student is $300, but grant money from the St. Anthony Park Community Foundation and other organizations help to pay the tuition for those who don’t have the means to pay the full amount, Chase said. “All we ask of the student is that they give back to the community in some way. We credit their account $5 for every hour of community service done.”

To find out more about Murray junior High School’s annual trip to Wolf Ridge and to see photos from past trips, go to http://murray.spps.org/wolf_ridge.html.
Celebrate! with a CELEBRATION ad in the Park Bugle! $40 buys a business-card-size ad where you can announce weddings, births, anniversaries, birthdays, graduations or anything your heart desires. Include a photo at no extra charge. Call Fariba: 651-564-5369.

Japanese Restaurant

Located at 3034 University Ave S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55414 near U of M campus. Cozy, quaint, lots of stories, 2 bedrooms, 2 sunrooms, 1 1/2 bathrooms. 1 block to U of M campus. Cozy, quaint, lots of character. Call Mimi @ 651-659-0972.

Sleep in a comfortable bed with the latest pillows and linens. The friendly neighborhood drug store is not a thing of the past! We're on the verge of changing the way you look at things. We are the friendly neighborhood drug store. Call for your hometown pharmacy! $40 buys a business-card-size ad where you can announce weddings, births, anniversaries, birthdays, graduations or anything your heart desires. Include a photo at no extra charge. Call Fariba: 651-564-5369.

Celebrate life's milestones

Like any good neighbor, we come to grips with unusual situations. During times of grief, we offer assistance. During times of celebration, we celebrate with you. We're here for any and all situations in your life. 

The best of both worlds

Celebrate life's milestones with a CELEBRATION ad in the Park Bugle! $40 buys a business-card-size ad where you can announce weddings, births, anniversaries, birthdays, graduations or anything your heart desires. Include a photo at no extra charge. Call Fariba: 651-564-5369.

Let Us be your handyman!

We offer a wide range of services, including:
- Seasonal Clean Up
- Carpentry • Deck Cleaning/Repair
- Gutter Cleaning • Fence Repair • Painting and Staining • Screen Repair • Window Replacement
- Tilework

For more information, contact us at 651-653-8867 or email us at letus@letusservice.com.

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The Murray Parent Association will host a forum entitled Choosing a High School on Monday, Dec. 12, at 7 p.m. in the library. This is rescheduled from the forum’s original date, Jan. 9.

Murray welcomes teacher Kellie Saindon, who joined the math department in November. She will be teaching geometry and algebra. Saindon taught at Capitol Hill in St. Paul for eight years before coming to Murray. She says she loves math and loves teaching it. She has bachelor’s and master’s degrees in math from the University of M inneota. She says she is excited to be a part of the Murray community.

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A note from the math department: If parents are looking for a Christmas gift for their Challenge Algebra child, teachers are suggesting get them a TI- 83, 84 or 85 calculator.

Upcoming events at Murray are:
- Dec. 1: Barnes and Noble fundraiser at HarMar Mall
- Dec. 2: End of first trimester
- Dec. 15: Winter holiday concert
- Dec. 22: Rock Band performance

St. Anthony Park Elementary
2180 K napp St., 651-293-8735 www.stanthony.spps.org

December is a busy month at St. Anthony Park Elementary. Be sure to check their website for more updates and upcoming events.

Great River, Murray students plant at Como woodland classroom

By Deb Robinson
Volunteerism was alive and well with local school students from Great River School and Murray Junior High on Oct. 26 at the Como Woodland Outdoor Classroom (CWOC) project site. Sixteen Great River students and their teacher, Enrique Garita, planted 20 flats of prairie plants in the Savanna Prairie project’s advisory committee.

St. Paul Parks and Recreation natural resources technician, Meghan Manhatton, shows Great River School volunteers how to plant the prairie plants. Enrique Garita, student at Great River School, planted 20 flats of prairie plants in the Savanna Prairie project’s advisory committee.

Thanks to all.

Volunteerism is an important part of Great River School’s mission to prepare students for an active role as responsible and engaged citizens of the world. The school has a long association with the CWOC and adopted the Como Woodland as a school forest committee volunteers.

The long-term health of this urban woodland depends on dedicated volunteers like these students and community members. Thanks to all.

For more information about the Como Woodland Outdoor Classroom project, visit www.comowoodland.org.

Deb Robinson is a member of the Como Woodland Advisory Committee.