The band plays on . . .

St. Anthony Park Community Band marks 30 years

By Michelle Christianson

How many community organizations have you belonged to for 30 years? Although people tend to stay involved for long periods of time in the Bugle communities, a 30-year commitment is somewhat out of the ordinary.

For Paul Husby and several others, the St. Anthony Park Community Band has been a part of their lives for three decades—since the band officially began in 1982. The band began as a loose group of neighbors who liked to play music together. Longtime St. Anthony Park residents may remember Igor Razskazoff, Jack Strane, Gerald McKay and several others tootling away on the back of a flatbed truck in the Fourth of July parade. As the group grew, so did its need for a conductor. The group contacted the Roseville Community Band to see if anyone was interested in leading the organization. Paul Husby answered the call and has led the musicians for the last 30 years.

Husby has deep roots in the St. Anthony Park community. His grandfather was born in St. Anthony Park and he lives in the house his parents built in Roseville, just a short bike ride away. Husby majored in music at the University of Minnesota and is currently a seventh-grade band teacher at a local middle school.

Paul Husby leads the St. Anthony Park Community Band through its first rehearsal of the 2012 season. This year marks 30 years for both Husby and the band.

By Judy Woodward

Visitors to the 43rd annual St. Anthony Park Arts Festival on Saturday, June 2, will notice a few changes. More art and fewer trinkets might be the easiest way to sum it up.

“No more soap,” said professional potter Ken Chin-Purcell, president of the St. Anthony Park Library Association, which sponsors the event. “No more geese or “bottoms-up” yard ornaments, noted organizer Rose Gregory.

“N o more baby-shower centerpieces made of clean diapers,” said publicity chair Arlene West, who added reminiscently that these particular pieces “looked like wedding cakes. There are lots of funny

By Sharon Shinomiya

Grab your swimsuit, towel and plenty of sunscreen and be prepared for some fun in the sun this summer at the new Como Regional Park Pool.

A free grand-opening celebration is set for Saturday, June 9. Festivities will begin at 11:30 a.m. with a program hosted by Mayor Chris Coleman and activities from noon until 8 p.m. that will include an open swim, door prizes, scavenger hunts, lawn games, a jump castle and a climbing wall.

The new $9.2 million pool features a 400-foot lazy river with both single- and double-rider tubes; an aquatic rock climbing wall; a children’s splash pool; a six-lane lap pool with two basketball hoops; locker rooms; and a concession stand. The final cost of the project includes site and roadwork, as well as the pool and its amenities. The project was funded by the City of St. Paul’s Capital Improvement Budget Committee, the Metropolitan Council and Minnesota’s Legacy and Heritage funds.

The park has been without a pool since fall 2008, when the 46-year-old facility was closed due to mechanical and electrical failures. A community design process took
CITIES FILE

Citizenship award goes to Falcon Heights teens

Two Falcon Heights teens recently received the annual Neal Kwong Youth Citizenship Award. Neal Kwong was a Falcon Heights resident who died of carbon monoxide poisoning at the age of 15 in August 2000. He was a volunteer in the Parks and Recreation Junior Leaders Program, an Eagle Scout and a great young citizen. In his memory, the Kwong family and the city established the award to recognize young people who display outstanding leadership, volunteerism or citizenship in the Falcon Heights community.

Seth Reasoner, 16, was nominated by Falcon Heights resident Diana Ross. Reasoner has recently completed a mission trip to Arkansas to help paint houses and creating emergency aid kits for seniors. He volunteers weekly at the Lyngblomsten Nursing Home, providing a variety of services such as meal and mail delivery and helping with various chores. Reasoner recently completed a mission trip to Arkansas to help paint houses and will be participating in a mission trip to New Orleans this summer. He has also participated as a Feed the Hungry Children volunteer.

Katherine Allen, 17, was nominated by Falcon Heights resident M. Irene Smiley. Smiley nominated Allen after her civic engagement by becoming part of the Interfaith Youth Leadership Coalition. Additionally, she has been an active member of her church’s national youth ministry advisory team. At Roseville Area Senior High School, Allen is a member of the Gay-Straight Alliance and serves on the Roseville District Curriculum Advisory Committee. She is currently pursuing service project opportunities to achieve the Girl Scout’s Gold Award.
A lifetime of good memories

The St. Anthony Park Community Foundation honors Bruce Perrizo, program director at Langford Park during the 1960s and 1970s

By Roy Magnusson

“Our must know that there is nothing higher and stronger and more wholesome and good for life in the future than some good memory, especially a memory of childhood, of home.”

So says Fyodor Dostoyevsky in *The Brothers Karamazov.* This year’s recipient of the St. Anthony Park Community Foundation’s Spirit of the Park Award, Bruce Perrizo, helped give a generation of St. Anthony Park kids a lifetime of good memories as playground director at Langford Park for nearly a decade, beginning 50 years ago this May 2.

The Spirit of the Park Award was established in 2007 to honor those who have demonstrated extraordinary dedication to the St. Anthony Park community. Awards are presented each year at the Fourth in the Park festivities at Langford Park on July 4.

For hundreds of families and kids, operating for nine years out of a 20-by-40-foot building known affectionately as the “Shanty,” Perrizo ran a recreation program that was truly communitywide part athletic, part social; sometimes highly structured, often deliberately softly structured “kid run.” Perrizo might say “But always—five days a week, 52 weeks a year—active and engaging, and for the kids of the 1960s, their home away from home.”

Picture a typical July 6 in the mid-1960s at “The Park,” as Langford was called. Teed Shandy, sitting in the south end of the horseshoe in front of the train tracks is the scene of organized energy. Perhaps 40 to 70 bicycles are parked by the tetherball pole, many of the smaller bikes still festooned with red-and-blue crepe paper and streamers from the July 4 parade two days before. Most of the bikes have ball gloves hanging from the handlebars. The younger kids are at the park for T-ball or intramural baseball and softball practice. The older kids are playing in the daily pick-up softball game, multi-age, softly organized by Perrizo (who will play some, fashionably attired in athletic glasses and Bermuda shorts, with the occasional clashing boxer short protruding).

Younger kids will learn from the older kids, the older kids will learn about being role models, and memories will be created. Dave will become Manny (and still is to this day) because Blur thought that he saw a softball bat like Manny Mota, and Head, Horace, Beak and T.H.E. K (self-named, did not last) will agree. And Perrizo, no printable nickname, will concur.

Perrizo’s Langford was a place where Title IX lived long before it was the law of the land. Girls’ sports was a full component of Langford Park. When asked why years later, Perrizo begins a longer response by stating quite bluntly “They were our best athletes.”

In the winter, ice (not just a hockey rink, but a general skating rink used by dozens of people daily) became a focal point. Jack Pearson, Dick Hinneman, Bill Park, Stu Peterson and the late Trygg Hansen were several of many cited by Perrizo as people whose contributions were crucial. For many of those who grew up skating on that ice, a road trip to Albert Lea to play hockey is among their cherished memories of childhood.

They didn’t call it the Baby Boom for nothing. In the 1960s, St. Anthony Park Elementary School had two classes per grade composed of students who walked to school (and home for lunch). Nearby, Corpus Christi school was doing so well that it hired Perrizo to teach a morning physical education class for a decade.

The program at Langford Park was outgrowing the Shanty. Many will remember moving the football, baseball and softball gear and uniforms in and out of the basements and garages of the Comstock and Johnson homes, to name only two families who volunteered more than just time to Perrizo and the park. Working behind the scenes (he was a city employee, after all), Perrizo assisted as Paul Savage and other neighborhood leaders navigated the city government maze and successfully secured funding for the first of the two “new” buildings at Langford. Denny Griebner designed the building, which included a gym and made possible onsite basketball and volleyball. It opened in the early 1970s, near the end of Perrizo’s tenure there.

But lack of a building had not stopped Perrizo from expanding the program in the 1960s. Working with Genevieve Nelson at St. Anthony Park Elementary School, Perrizo created an active after-school program at the grade school. Some Langford activities were moved to the gym at M urray High School’s new building. That’s where Perrizo met his wife, Pat, who was teaching at M urray.

Perrizo also managed to use the old Luther Seminary gym for park programs. Summer programs sprawled from Langford to M urray Field and often to the Seminary Field. In the last decade before car air conditioning became standard, Perrizo’s open-windowed, left-handed wave over the roof following only one brief toss of the horn as he was driving from site to site became his signature mark.

Life moves on, and Perrizo moved on to a successful career in the St. Paul Parks and Recreation Department as a district supervisor. Langford Park and the Fourth in the Park festivities were frequent parts of his work life as he oversaw the

Bruce Perrizo stands near the “new” recreation building at Langford Park, which opened near the end of his tenure as playground director there. Photo by Lori Hamilton
The best of the Twin Cities is right here!

We've known it all along, and now the secret's out! College Park has the best sledding in the Twin Cities.

The park, with its inviting slopes on all sides, was named Best Sledding in the 2012 Best of the Twin Cities awards bestowed by the monthly newspaper City Pages in April.

Who told them about Suicide Hill? People have been sledding there for years. But the secret was out for the world to see and enjoy.

Who would have thought that College Park was one of the best parks in the Twin Cities? Many people can attest to that.

The park, with its inviting slopes on all sides, has been a popular destination for sledders for many years. Now, people from all over the Twin Cities are flocking to College Park to enjoy the best sledding in the area.

Lech sponsors bill to protect social media information

Recently, there have been reports in the media about employers requiring prospective employees to divulge their Facebook password during the interview process. This practice is illegal and does not follow Minnesota law. It is important for employees to be aware of their rights and not to divulge their Facebook password during the interview process.

Legal information about employers requiring Facebook password can be found on social media sites, such as Facebook. Users post personal information pertaining to certain demographic data, such as gender, religion, race or creed. This information, along with a multitude of other personal information, can be found on social media sites. As a result, Facebook's users might want to be cautious about divulging their Facebook password.

The Park Bugle welcomes letters and commentaries from our readers. Send your submissions to editor@parkbugle.org or to Editor, Park Bugle, P.O. Box 8126, St. Paul, MN 55108. The deadline for the June issues is Wednesday, May 16.
One last hurrah to Poetry Month

In the April issue of the Park Bugle, we printed five of the 24 poems that were submitted to our second annual poetry contest: the top three winners and two honorable mentions, which happen to be villanelles. We regretfully overlooked two other villanelles in our entries. To Andrew Bergstrom and Gary Carlson, who accepted our challenge to write the highly structured 19-line poem, you are now honorably mentioned. Here are their poems.

The Trails Above
Alas my brain evicts reason, but again your song invades
Never greater ever growing, bequeathed to grey skies
Dram, once blue to grey her face degrades.
Revel we in fantasy beneath these grey parades
Weather, attention paid or held, your song invades.
Beautiful once these blue skies, now a masquerade
Egregious, the notes to a song so filled with lies
Remember, once blue to grey her face degrades.

Strange Winter
No wind chill, no snowfall, very strange
Winter should influence the entire brain
Weather it will almost surely change
Dry topping for the farmer on his grange
There’s not much hope for the grain
No wind chill, no snowfall, very strange
The temperatures are well out of range
More mental instead of physical pain
Wait awhile it will almost surely change
The snow and rain frequently interchange
Doesn’t do much good for you to complain
No wind chill, no snowfall, very strange
You may want warm vacation to arrange
But listen to the villanelle's refrain
Wait awhile it will almost surely change
Pseudowinter can cause your mind to derange
This too shall pass, I can safely proclaim
No wind chill, no snowfall, very strange
Wait awhile it will almost surely change

— Andrew Bergstrom

Library needs gardeners to help weed and plant

The St. Anthony Park Library Association needs help with weeding and planting on the library lawn. Gardeners can join in at the library, located at 2245 Como Ave., on Tuesdays and Fridays, 10-11 a.m. One-timers are welcome.

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hobbies out there," but not all are destined for the arts festival. "We're going to run it more like other, better-known art fairs," she said.

The idea is to put the longtime neighborhood fair on a more professional footing by offering great art and attracting more visitors from outside St. Anthony Park.

One step toward that goal was to drop the traditional rolling jury process in favor of identity-blind judging by well-known artists to determine which applicants were chosen for the festival's available art slots. That means some that artists who have been part of the arts festival for years did not make it into the fair this year.

Since its start in 1969, the arts festival has been the major annual fundraising project of the St. Anthony Park Library Association. This year, Chin-Purcell saw a potential way to increase revenue for the project, as well as give a boost to the artistic stature of the undertaking. By inviting four featured artists to take part, Potter Bob Briscoe, sculptor Marcia M. Echrhon, painter and sculptor Dan Mackeran and glass artist Craig Campbell are all acknowledged masters in their fields.

Mackeran, of Lauderdale, has modeled hundreds of figures for the iconic Dairy Queen/Macy's downtown Christmas displays. He's also a painter whose work is on display at the Como HealthPartners Clinic among many other venues. Visitors to the Episcopal Homes on University Avenue will recognize Echrhon as the creator of "O of the Wwoods," the larger-than-life metal leaves that decorate the corner of Fairview and University avenues.

When asked how the association chose these four, Chin-Purcell responded, "They choose us." Chin-Purcell has known Briscoe and his work for many years. When he approached the St. Croix Valley-based potter, Chin-Purcell explained, "We want to make this a high-quality, one-day art fair." Intrigued, Briscoe signed on as a "featured artist" and brought glass-blower Craig Campbell aboard.

The affiliation of such well-known figures persuaded other artists to consider applying for the show.

"The featured artists have attracted a whole new group of high-quality artists to apply," said Gregoire. She said this year's festival attracted 75 "higher-quality" artists, but the eventual goal is to build up to about 100 participants.

The four featured artists, along with artists Jan Sedgewick and Emily Chesick, juried the rest of the art competitors. Applicants paid a $15 jury fee to cover costs for the new online application system and to pay the jurors a dividend (jurors were paid $80 each for their work).

Thanks to the Boss Foundation for the Arts, there is an additional incentive for participants. This year, the Boss family has donated funds to cover a $400 Best in Show prize, plus three merit awards of $200 each.

Another source of aid comes from Andersen Windows, which is providing a grant to help market the event beyond the immediate neighborhood. This is the second year that the company has helped sponsor the festival. The planning committee is also launching a social media effort on Twitter and Facebook to publicize the festival.

One welcome addition to the festival's website will be parking directions for those who come outside the neighborhood to visit the festival.

"This year, Murray Junior High School (on Buford Avenue) and the St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church [at the intersection of Hillside and Como] will allow festival visitors to use their parking lots," Gregoire said.

What won't change about the festival is the traditional mix of food booths, family-fun attractions (including the ever-popular Water Wars) and the St. Anthony Park Library's annual used book sale.

Traditionally, the festival raises several thousand dollars a year to support programs at the library. Much of the money goes to expanding the Summer Reading Program, the library's weekly roster of activities designed to keep grade-school children involved with books and reading during school vacation.

"We almost double the summer reading program allocation of funds," said Gregoire, noting that the summer program attracts "kids from five or six ZIP codes" and helps counter "the huge drop-off in reading skills" that can affect children during long summers spent away from the classroom.

Visitors with long memories will realize that this isn't the first time that change has come to the Arts Festival. According to Wiest, in the early days of the event, which was originally known as the Arts and Craft Festival and Boutique, featured volunteers dressed in Victorian costumes. Marydressing up as Victorian ladies made it easier for the organizers to circulate at the end of the day to collect a percentage of the profits from the artists. Sommer.

The 1970s, the costumes were dropped and the financial arrangement of the festival changed to the present system of charging artists a flat, up-front fee.

A few years ago, the festival expanded from its traditional base on the library lawn when Luther Seminary began making part of its front lawn available for additional booths.

Chin-Purcell calls the present event a work-in-progress: "It takes years to create a great one-day art show. This is early days, and it's exciting."

"This is a great community event for a great community institution." Learn more about the festival and see a gallery of the accepted artists at the festival website, www.stanthonyparkartsfestival.org.

Judy Woodward is a reference librarian at Roseville Library and a regular contributor to the Park Bugle.
Pie social and plant sale are arts festival weekend traditions

Mark your calendars for two more St. Anthony Park traditions: the first weekend in June: the Northern Lights 4-H Club pie and ice cream social and the St. Anthony Park Garden Club annual plant sale.

The 4-H social will be held Friday, June 1, from 7 to 9 p.m., on the Luther Seminary lawn at the corner of Como Avenue and Luther Place. The St. Anthony Park Community Band will perform at 7:15 p.m.

The St. Anthony Park Garden Club Plant Sale will be held Saturday, June 2, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tents and tables will be set up at Park Service, 2277 Como Ave., during the St. Anthony Park Arts Festival. Garden club members and master gardeners will be on hand to offer gardening ideas, guidance and specifics about plant culture. Proceeds from the sale benefit garden and natural resource projects in St Anthony Park. Featured plants at the sale will include sedum, iris, hosta, daylilies, monarda, black-eyed Susans, native plants, herbs and annuals.

Heartwood Festival seeks artists

The Hamline Midway neighborhood is seeking artists for the third annual Hamline Midway Heartwood Festival (formerly Spring Fest) to be held Saturday, June 2. The festival will be held at Newell Park, 900 N. Fairview Ave., from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., and will feature art and music.

Booths are $75 or free with a donation of equal or greater value to the festival’s silent auction. Booths are 10-by-10 feet and may be shared.

To participate, submit an image of your work (file size no larger than 1MB) or a link to faith@hamlinemidway.org no later than Friday, May 18.

Nominate a Como tree

Como Park residents: It's time to nominate your favorite Como Park neighborhood tree for a Como Tree Appreciation Award. The District 10 Environment Committee is sponsoring the awards as a way to treasure the neighborhood's valuable trees and promote tree planting.

Nominate a residential tree—big or small, old or new, yours or a neighbor’s—by using the form at district10comopark.org/nominateatree.html.

Nominations will be accepted until Friday, May 25. Winners will be notified by late June.

Perrizo from page 3

Northwest District and regularly worked the Fourth.

At this year’s July 4 celebration, Perrizo will serve as grand marshal in the parade down Como Avenue and will be honored at the bandstand at Langford Park during the opening ceremonies. A special reunion gathering for all of the “Park Kids” of the 1960s, 1970s and beyond is the theme of this year’s event. Friends of Perrizo are invited to greet him from 1 to 4 p.m. at a special “Perrizo’s Palace” tent to be located by the horseshoe pits.

Roy Magnuson is a teacher and coach at Como Park Senior High School and one of many of “Bruce’s kids.”

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Frogtown

851 Edmund Avenue $135,000

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City files from page 2

Merriam Park

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City files from page 2

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The first T hursday of the month at 7 p.m. at SSA. The Energy Reelay Group meets at 7 p.m. the third Thursday of the month. Email erg@apcc.org to find out the location each month. The Environment Committee meets at 7 p.m. the fourth Wednesday of the month at SSA.

Midway Local Food Hub

Online registration for the Midway Local Food Hub is open. Membership gives you access to seeds and seedlings, gardening workshops and more. Dues start at $10 and scholarships are available. Go to www.hamlinemidway.org/midway-hub to find out more about upcoming opportunities, including information about the second seed and seedling distribution on May 19.

Rain barrels and compost bins available through two programs

There are two opportunities to get a rain barrel and compost bin in the area. The city of Roseville has a sale that is open to anyone on Saturday, May 5, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Compost bins cost $45 and rain barrels cost $55 and will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Find out more at the website, cityofroseville.com/rainbarrels.

RecycleMinnnesota is offering rain barrels and compost bins. To order, go to RecycleMinnnesota.org. Rain barrels are $69; compost bins are $55.

Pop-up art show on University

Art Du Nord’s first pop-up show will open on Friday, April 27, at a storefront at 2401 W. University Ave. from 6 to 9 p.m. and run for four weeks. The show will feature prints and works on paper, contemporary paintings, furniture and design products—all by artists and designers living and working in and around M inneapolis and St. Paul. The show is in a former frame shop that has remained empty during light-rail construction. It is made possible thanks to the Starling Project, a group working to match-make aspiring entrepreneurs and retail or office space-seekers with landlords looking for tenants.

Recycle your cartridges and handheld electronics

Bring used printer cartridges, small electronics and used phones to the St. Anthony Park Community Council, 890 Cromwell Ave., where they will be recycled and help raise money for the council.

New board members

The St. Anthony Park Community Council held elections on April 10. The board for 2012-13 is Richard Bliese, Ray Bryan, Linda Hodges, Stephen M. Masey, Paul Mix, Katie Nosney, and Julie Wagner (tied, business delegation); Gary Carlson, Brian Clark, Steve Kranz, Seth Levin, John Seto, John Seppanen and Steve Hetter (north delegation); and Bjorn Arneson, Joshua Bau, Kevin Caufield, Ranean Harston, Matt M. Has, Annette Hylarides and JoAnne M. Nakula (south delegation).

Permaculture gardening in the city

Dina Kourkoutis, co-owner of Harvest Moon Backyard Farmers, will lead the program “Permaculture Gardening in the Desert” and in the City of Roseville on Tuesday, May 8, at St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church, 2200 Hillside Ave. Refreshments will begin at 6:45 p.m. and the program will start at 7 p.m.

The documentary Greening the Desert will be shown. The film shows how Geoff Lawton of Australia’s Permaculture Research Institute used permaculture to create an oasis of agriculture in the Jordanian desert.

The event is hosted by the District 12 Energy Resilience Group.

Programs that are open to anyone

The city of Roseville is hosting workshops on rain barrel and compost bin in the area. The city of Roseville is hosting workshops on rain barrel and compost bin in the area. For more information, go to cityofroseville.com/rainbarrelsale.

National Greening the City files from page 2

Retirement Party for John

Join us Wednesday, April 25, at 6:30 p.m. at SSA. This is a special time to come together to say thank you and goodbye to John Seppanen, executive director of the St. Anthony Park Community Council. John has been an amazing leader of our council, and we are sad to see him go. We hope you can join us to celebrate his service.

The event is hosted by the District 12 Energy Resilience Group.
A rinkside view of Langford hockey

By Dana Fried

There's a thud as the puck hits the ice and Andy Frisell quickly backs away from the scrumbling hockey players. This year, Frisell had the privilege to drop the first puck of the Langford Park Winter Classic in January because he led parent volunteers in a fierce battle with Mother Nature over the ice.

The ice may have been soft due to the unseasonably warm winter weather, but it was still skatable. In the days before the Classic, Frisell and others swept and flooded the rink multiple times a day, including in the wee hours of the morning. Why would anyone flood a rink at 5 a.m.?

“I enjoy it,” Frisell said, “and the kids like it.”

One person who appreciated the hard work of the ice crews was John Savelkoul, who was one of the coaches of the White Squirt team, made up mostly of fourth-graders. As a young team, they were at a disadvantage against some of their older opponents, but Savelkoul pointed out that “our kids held their own and never gave up no matter who we played.”

The team steadily improved over the course of the season before heading into the District 1 tournament, where they played Edgemudge Green. “They beat us three times in the regular season, but we crushed them in the playoffs,” Savelkoul said.

Despite some nonconference losses, Langford Blue was undefeated in District play going into the season-end tournament. “I think we’ll remember the championship game for a long time,” Wielfering said. “We were down 1-0, but no one seemed to get anxious or worried, and we played a great team game to win 2-1.”

At the PeeWee level (sixth- and seventh-graders), there was a big rule change as Minnesota Hockey decided that there would no longer be checking. Ben Williams, a defender on the Langford PeeWee squad disagreed with the decision, “It’s hockey and its supposed to be rough,” he said.

Isabella DiGiorno, one of the goalies for the Squirt Blue team, agreed with the ruling, “because more people would get hurt and it would be more dangerous,” she said. Carter Moorman, one of DiGiorno’s teammates, agreed with Williams. “There should be checking because ‘checking is awesome,’” he said.

All the parents and coaches interviewed, however, agreed with the new rule. According to Wielfering, “There’s too big a size difference between kids” at the PeeWee level.

Scott Hamilton, one of the coaches of both the PeeWee and Bantam teams, added that Wielfering, saying that PeeWees were “still learning the game” and might not be ready for checking.

“I think everybody gained the confidence to be creative on the ice and try new things, whether it was positional play or a shot or a fancy move,” DiGiorno said. “The great thing about the Langford hockey program is that anyone is welcome to join and play.”

In the first round of the tournament, they crushed their opponent 9-1, followed by a closer District 1 championship game, which they won 4-3. The season was not over, however, as the PeeWees had also played in the tougher District 8 tournament. Hamilton was also one of the coaches for the Langford Bantam team (eighth- and ninth-graders), which included players from other programs and even some kids that were brand new to hockey. But what they lacked in overall experience, they made up for with effort and attitude.

“Given the newness of the team, they were very rough. Hamilton explained, “In typical Langford tradition, however, the Bantam boys never gave up. They kept playing hard in every game despite the score.”

“The great thing about the Langford hockey program is that anyone is welcome to join and play, regardless of experience or skill level,” Savelkoul said. “I think that is pretty unique these days.”

Dana Fried is a 5th-grader at Capital Hill. Her twin sister, Sophie, played on the Langford Squirt Blue hockey team.

The Langford Park Blue Squirts after they won the District 1 championship. Photo by Mark Moorman

500 West Grand Ave.

MAY 2012  ■  PARK BUGLE  9

A rinkside view of Langford hockey

By Dana Fried

There's a thud as the puck hits the ice and Andy Frisell quickly backs away from the scrumbling hockey players. This year, Frisell had the privilege to drop the first puck of the Langford Park Winter Classic in January because he led parent volunteers in a fierce battle with Mother Nature over the ice.

The ice may have been soft due to the unseasonably warm winter weather, but it was still skatable. In the days before the Classic, Frisell and others swept and flooded the rink multiple times a day, including in the wee hours of the morning. Why would anyone flood a rink at 5 a.m.?

“I enjoy it,” Frisell said, “and the kids like it.”

One person who appreciated the hard work of the ice crews was John Savelkoul, who was one of the coaches of the White Squirt team, made up mostly of fourth-graders. As a young team, they were at a disadvantage against some of their older opponents, but Savelkoul pointed out that “our kids held their own and never gave up no matter who we played.”

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The Langford Park Blue Squirts after they won the District 1 championship. Photo by Mark Moorman

500 West Grand Ave.
The opening of the new pool is one of many projects happening at Como Regional Park. Here is a list of projects and improvements initiated in the park in the last year.

**TWO ELECTRIC VEHICLE SOLAR CHARGING STATIONS** began operating in April. One station is located at the lakeside pavilion and the other is on Jessamine Avenue near McMurray Field. The City of St. Paul received federal stimulus funds to purchase electric vehicles and install charging stations throughout the city. Cost to use the stations is $1 per hour.

**WORK ON THE 1895 HISTORIC LILY POND** began in October 2011. The pond walls and bottom were removed and are being rebuilt in a nearly identical footprint. The pond’s fieldstone footbridge will be tuck pointed and a new railing installed. The restored pond will feature Minnesota aquatic plants. A small cascade and fountain will circulate water, a concrete walk will encircle the pond, and there will be a seating area and an overlook area. This $640,000 project, funded by the Minnesota Parks and Trails Fund, will be completed in June.

**THE EXCEDRA,** located in front of the Marjorie McNeely Conservatory, is being renovated after its stone wall, which supported the 1929 pergola and platform overlooking the frog pond, collapsed in late summer 2010. The $170,400 project began in fall 2011 and is expected to be completed in May.

**CONSTRUCTION ON THE GORILLA FOREST** at the Como Zoo began in September 2011. The $11 million project is expected to open in summer 2013. It will feature two natural outdoor habitats and a large pavilion for indoor viewing. Funding for the project came from a 2010 state bonding appropriation.

**COMO WOODLAND OUTDOOR CLASSROOM:** With $218,000 from the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund, volunteers and city staff are transforming this large wooded area into an outdoor classroom. In 2011 many invasive species were removed, 24 native trees were planted in the coniferous forest and volunteers installed 3,600 plants in the floodplain terrace forest. Plans for this year include trail-system installation, signage, seeding of prairie areas and continued removal of invasive plants. A burdock bust is scheduled for Saturday, June 23. Interested? Register at www.stpaul.gov/index.aspx?NID=1043.

**THE WEST PICNIC PLAY AREA** will receive a $345,000 renovation beginning in August. The new play area will include a large rope-climbing structure that will connect bridges, ropes and other elements to landforms, an 8-foot embankment slide and a swing bay overlooking the fire rings. Infant swings and a play area for young children will be built separate from the main structures meant for older children. The project will be funded through the Capital Improvement Budget funds and a STAR grant.

**THE JAPANESE GARDEN EXPERIENCE** is a $2.625 million project fully funded by Como Friends and will include a new wing with a bonsai gallery, outdoor bonsai garden and terrace, and a realigned walk leading to the Japanese Garden. Construction fencing was installed and trees were removed last fall to prepare for the beginning of work in April. It will open in spring 2013.

**THE HISTORIC STREETCAR FOOTBRIDGE:** The city has secured $1.2 million in Federal Transportation Enhancement and local matching funds to transform this historic bridge into an interpretive site. Engineering, design and a plan review by the State Historic Preservation Office will be completed this year. The review will determine what portions of the bridge can be preserved to allow for a future complete restoration. The cost includes historical research. Bidding and construction will begin in early 2013.

Como Regional Park continues to upgrade and add amenities

By Sharon Shinomiya

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Como Pool from 1
place in 2008 and 2009, where regional and local stakeholders had the opportunity to weigh in on the design for the new pool.

"We've certainly felt the impact of having Como Pool offline for four years," said Michael Hahn, St. Paul Parks and Recreation director, "but we wanted to do things right and didn’t want to rush the new design for this premium regional amenity."

Energy efficiency and environmental concerns were deemed important aspects of the new design. The facility has 12 solar panels that will heat water for the sinks and showers in the locker rooms and concession stand. The pool is surrounded by landscaping, including rain gardens to reduce runoff into the parking lots. Along with St. Paul’s two other aquatic facilities, the pool uses sphagnum moss to treat its water, which greatly reduces the need for chemicals. St. Paul is the first city in the nation to adopt sphagnum moss treatment in its municipal pools and with its partner, Creative Water Solutions, won the Governor’s Award for Pollution Prevention in 2011.

The pool schedule includes time for lap swim, open swim, water aerobics and swim lessons. Open swim will be available from noon to 5 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from noon to 7 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays, and from noon to 8 p.m. with some restrictions on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Details of the schedule for lap swim, water aerobics and swim lessons can be found in the St. Paul Parks and Recreation 2012 Summer Activities Brochure available around town and online at www.stpaul.gov on the Parks and Recreation page.

Admission ranges from $4.50 for youth less than 48 inches tall to $6.50 for adults under age 62. Families of up to five members can pay one fee of $16, with each additional member costing $3. There is a deck fee of $2 for those who don’t use the pool facilities. Group rates are also available.

Three Friday Family Fun and Fitness Days are scheduled for June 15, July 20 and Aug. 17. On those days, admission to St. Paul’s three aquatic facilities—Como Pool, Highland Park Aquatic Center and Great River Water Park—will be only $2.

If weather allows, the new pool will open pre-season Memorial Day weekend, May 26-28, and on June 2-3 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Residents of Districts 10 and 6 may have an opportunity to check out the new pool during one of several “soft” openings in May that will allow pool staff to test the facility and operations systems.

Some vandalism occurred during construction, but since completion there have been no further incidents. The pool is protected by an 8-foot security fence as required by state code, and during swim season an overnight attendant will be on site. Twelve security cameras record activity around the facility and anti-graffiti coatings were applied to building surfaces.

The pool entrance and parking lots are now on the south side of the facility off Como Avenue. The 215 parking stalls are expected to accommodate both pool and MCHMurray Field users. Como is currently a through street, but future plans have it dead-ended at the Como Woodland Outdoor Classroom. Plans also call for the pool to become a stop on the route of a future circulating shuttle through the park.

Follow Como Pool on Facebook for specials throughout the summer.

Sharon Shinomiya is a freelance writer who lives in the Como Park neighborhood.

Pool’s new entrance on Como aims to relieve traffic congestion

By Anne Holzman

D ivers approaching MCHMurray Field for sports events this summer can expect to see changes resulting from the new pool entrance.

Access to the pool parking area off Horton Avenue has been eliminated to relieve congestion on Horton. Instead of turning off Horton, as it did three years ago, pool traffic will now share the Como Avenue route to MCHMurray Field, using the small stretch of Como Avenue that lies a block south of Horton off of Lexington Avenue. This stretch of Como Avenue does not connect to HAMLIne Avenue.

Turning into the parking area shared by the pool and the sports field along Como Avenue, drivers will encounter a curving two-way street with parking slots along it and on a spur to the side. There is also a drop-off drive for the pool.

Parents dropping off young athletes can expect “less than usual” parking on Como Avenue during the pool’s peak hours, said St. Paul Parks and Recreation Department spokesman Brad Meyer. Peak hours are likely to be midday on weekdays and all day on weekends.

“But a lot of the games take place [at MCHMurray Field] in the evening, when the pool will be less busy,” he said. “Weekends may present the most instances of parking overlap.”

There may be an early-season rush when the pool opens this spring, he said. "Visitors should expect a pretty busy first few weeks as the new pool is broken in by those who have been eagerly waiting for the past three years," Meyer said.

The next street south of Horton and Como is Jessamine Avenue, which continues to be one-way westbound and has additional parking for MCHMurray Field.

As in past years, the pool will be closed the weekend of the Hmong Soccer Festival, which is June 30–July 1 this year. The festival pays for the pool closing as part of its permit.

Pool restrooms and concessions will be available only to pool users, Meyer said. Portable restrooms will be provided for MCHMurray users as in the past.

The city encourages park users to consider other ways of getting to the park, besides driving and parking at the pool or fields, Meyer said. "There are 20 bike rack spots [and] there are city bus stops near the pool."

The shuttle from remote parking is also an option, he said, especially for pool users. "It only stops at the zoo, so it would be a bit of a walk, but not if folks make an entire day of visiting the zoo and then coming to the pool," Meyer said.

Anne Holzman is a freelance writer and frequent contributor to the Park Bugle.
Local woman named Red Cross Hero for lake rescue
Como Park resident Sarah M. eggitt has been named a 2012 American Red Cross Hero Award recipient. One of 10 Heroes in the Red Cross Northern Minnesota Region, Meggitt will receive the Good Samaritan award at the American Red Cross Breakfast on May 24. Meggitt will be recognized for rescuing a woman from Como Lake last October.

Meggitt dove into the lake to rescue a suicidal woman, according to St. Paul Police Chief Tom Smith. The woman tried to submerge herself, but Meggitt fought to keep the woman’s head above water until professional responders arrived. The American Red Cross Heroes Awards raise awareness about ordinary people whose extraordinary actions exemplify the Red Cross mission to prevent and alleviate human suffering in the face of emergencies. Each hero was nominated by a member of the community and selected by the 2012 Heroes Breakfast Nomination Committee.

Como Park artist named Aviation Artist of the Year
The Minnesota Aviation Hall of Fame has named Como Park artist Stephen Nesser the 2012 Minnesota Aviation Artist of the Year. This honor is given for Nesser’s aviation paintings, which are in the collections of the Minnesota Historical Society, the Smithsonian Institution’s Air and Space Museum, the International Women’s Air and Space Museum, the National Soaring Museum of Germany, the AirVenture Museum and the U.S. National Soaring Museum. Nesser will be honored at the Minnesota Aviation Hall of Fame’s annual induction awards dinner on April 28 at the Ramada Mall of America Hotel.

Richter memorial is May 19
A celebration in honor of Sheila Richter’s life will be held Saturday, May 19, at 3 p.m. at the St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ, 2123 Commonwealth Avenue. Richter was the former director of the St. Anthony Park Co-op Preschool.

Bethel Lutheran seeks rummage sale donations
Bethel Lutheran Church, 670 W. Washington Parkway, will hold its 11th annual rummage sale benefiting the Children’s Christian Education Fund on Wednesday, June 13 (pre-sale 6-8 p.m.; $3 admission); Thursday and Friday, June 14 and 15 (9 a.m.-6 p.m.); and Saturday, June 16 (9 a.m.-3 p.m.). The church is looking for “almost-new” donations. M attresses, t 伊利es, ex ercise bikes and artificial Christmas trees will not be accepted. The church will be open to receive donations from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, June 24, 2 and 6. Go to www.bethelsportland.com or call 651-488-6681 for more information.

St. Thomas hosts youth entrepreneur summit April 27
Young people from St. Anthony Park, Falcon Heights, Ladera Park and Como Park are encouraged to participate in the free 2012 Youth Social Entrepreneur Summit at the University of St. Thomas’ M inneapolis campus, 1000 LaSalle Ave., on Friday, April 27, from 2 to 8 p.m. The event will feature social enterprise programs, workshops, keynote speakers from young entrepreneurs, entertainment and opportunities for young people to learn how to start their own venture. Register at www.YSEsummit.eventbrite.com.

Fairgrounds show features local watercolor artists
A number of local artists are participating in the 10th Annual Art on a Line event at the M innesota State Fairgrounds May 18 to 20. Local artists include M argaret Beyer, Giselle Mohr, Susan G ainer, Ann Sisel and Wayne Sisel.

More than 85 artists will be exhibiting original work in a variety of styles, sizes and subject matter. For more information, go to www.northstarwatercolorociety.com/artistonline.html.

YMCA sale extends hours
The spring garage sale for YMCA Camps Widjiwagan and du Nord at the M innesota State Fairgrounds will extend its hours.

Shop and support the camps from Wednesday, May 16 to Saturday, May 19. The sale is open 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Wednesday to Friday and 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday. The sale will run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

More than 250 families contribute good-quality camping equipment, clothing, household items, toys, books, antiques, furniture, sports equipment and more. All proceeds go to the YMCA camps. Admission is free. For more information, call 651-645-6605.
**MAY 2012**

**PARK BUGLE**

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**Events**

Venue information is listed at the end of the calendar. Send your events to calendar@parkbugle.org by May 16 to be included in the June issue.

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**1 TUESDAY**

- Baby storyline rhyme, stories, and songs for birth to age 12:30-11 a.m., St. Anthony Park library
- St. Anthony Park Garden Club: “Fruit Breeding at the University of Minnesota,” by James Luby, professor of horticultural science, University of Minnesota, St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church Fellowship Hall. Business meeting at 6:30 p.m., social time and refreshments at 7 p.m.; program starts at 7:30 p.m.

**2 WEDNESDAY**

- Free blood pressure clinic, sponsored by Como Park Falcon Heights Living at Como Park Book Nurse Program, Blomberg Pharmacy. 11-11:30 a.m.
- English conversation circle, every Wednesday, 4-5:30 p.m., St. Anthony Park library
- St. Anthony Park Book Club, “Walking A Memoir of Trauma and Transcendence” by Matthew Sanford, 6:30-8 p.m., St. Anthony Park library

**3 THURSDAY**

- St. Anthony Park Branch Library closed for maintenance
- District 12 Land Use Committee, 7 p.m., South St. Anthony Recreation Center
- St. Anthony Park Elementary School annual Talent Show. Murray Junior High School Auditorium, 7 p.m.

**4 FRIDAY**

- Preschool storyline (ages 3 to 5) every Friday, 10:30-11:30 a.m., St. Anthony Park library
- Spring Carnival and plant sale. St. Anthony Park Elementary School, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
- It's A Long Story: Book Launch, Matthew Sanford, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Blomberg Pharmacy, 1583 N. W. County Road B, Roseville
- Women's Drop-In Drum Circle, 7:50-9 p.m., South St. Anthony Recreation Center

**5 SATURDAY**

- Memorial Day weekend events.
- Women’s Drop-In Drum Circle, 7:50-9 p.m., South St. Anthony Recreation Center
- District 12 Environment Committee, 7 p.m., South St. Anthony Recreation Center
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- Women’s Drop-In Drum Circle, 7:50-9 p.m., South St. Anthony Recreation Center

**10 SATURDAY**

- 4th annual Spring Carnival and plant sale. St. Anthony Park Library, 3-16; 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Gibbs Museum, 2097 W. Larpenteur Ave., 651-644-8833

**11 FRIDAY**

- St. Anthony Park Elementary School annual Talent Show. Murray Junior High School Auditorium, 7 p.m.

**12 SATURDAY**

- Spring Weekend: Festival of the Trees, Como Park, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
- World Drumming, Women’s Drum Center, 1-3 p.m., Spirit United Church

**13 SUNDAY**

- Women’s Drop-In Drum Circle, 7:50-9 p.m., South St. Anthony Recreation Center
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**Contact Information:**

Blomberg Pharmacy, 1383 N. Hamline Ave., 651-644-9645

Chelse Heights Elementary School, 1557 Huron St., 651-293-8790

Como Park Elementary School, 780 W. Wheelock Pkwy., 651-293-8735

Fairview Community Center, 1910 W. County Road E, Roseville

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**Salon in the Park**

2311 Como Ave., St. Anthony Park

**McAulay’s Books**

2136 Carter Ave., 651-645-3058

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**Community Events**

- Council on Aging: Click for a calendar listing of Council on Aging calendar events.

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**Salon in the Park**

2311 Como Ave., St. Anthony Park

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**Rice Street South Community Events**

- Council on Aging: Click for a calendar listing of Council on Aging calendar events.

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**Salon in the Park**

2311 Como Ave., St. Anthony Park
Come Home to University Grove

1564 Vincent St. was the first modern home built in the Grove in 1935. The European Bauhaus design was done by Rhodes Robertson and Roy Childs Jones. With all of the recent improvements of a remodeled kitchen, new windows, roof, furnace, water heater, insulation and updated electrical this home is in turnkey condition. Each of three bedrooms has its own bath.

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The Band plays from on 1 information systems at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), where he was active in music. He now works in commercial real estate, which gives him the flexibility to work with the band.

The band is sponsored by St. Paul Public Schools Community Education and is funded by Park Midway Bank, the St. Anthony Park Community Foundation. The band has recently been awarded a federal grant for the band by the late Gerald McKay and by honorariums from some of the institutions where the band performs. There is no cost to belong to the band and anyone can join.

And anyone has joined more than half of the players have family members in the band, according to Husby, including siblings (both children and adults), spouses, parents and children. In the course of his tenure, Husby has conducted his wife and three sons. People come from all walks of life, with all skill levels, and they come from long distances. There have been band members from St. Anthony Park, Roseville and Falcon Heights, but also from South St. Paul, Mounds View, M Inverness, Blaine and New Richmond, Wisc.

One trombonist arriving late to the first practice last month noticed an abundance of trombones and offered to go home to get his tuba. Several new family combinations were joining or rejoining the group—a pair of sisters, a father and daughter, and relatives of current players. There are three families who have been involved with the band for many years, the Holmans, the Larsens and the Stohls. M iri Stohl has played clarinet in the band for 28 years.

Husby thanks Joseph and Erik, enthusiastically played in the saxophone section at the first rehearsal and helped the newcomers find their place and music. Everyone seemed happy to be there (perussionist and vocalist Lily Dargis joined to “get away from the kids, though I asked them to join, too,” she said) and heartily dug into the new and old music.

There are nearly 50 active members in the band, usually with 35 to 40 at any one performance, though they can get by with as few as 30 to cover all the parts. This year, the band will play at the annual 4-H Pie and Ice Cream Social on Luther Seminary lawn on Friday, June 1, at 7:30 p.m.; at the Como Lakeside Pavilion on Tuesday, June 19, at 7 p.m.; at the Fourth of July parade in St. Anthony Park at Alien Park (one block south of Como Avenue and one block east of Raymond Avenue) on Wednesday, July 31, at 7 p.m.; and at the Minnesota State Fair parade on Friday, Aug. 24, at 1:30 p.m. The complete summer schedule is still to be determined.

Husby chooses music at a “good high school level,” though some pieces are a bit more difficult. He buys all the music (as opposed to renting it as many orchestras do) and has accumulated the parts for about 100 pieces. To keep things interesting, he tries not to repeat a work for at least five years after performing it. The repertoire ranges from classics by composers such as Holst, Milhaud and Ives to Broadway show tunes to jazz and some marches, though a band that practices only once a week doesn’t have the stamina to do too many marches in one performance.

The band’s season runs from April to the end of summer, though the band has performed as late as Octorber (for a really cold dedication of the Raymond Avenue bridge a number of years ago). The first two months are spent in rehearsal and come summer the band meets only for concerts. Band members learn about 15 pieces for a season and perform about seven at any one concert.

Practices are held at the Como Park Senior High School band room the second Tuesday of the month from 7:15 to 9 p.m. If you’re ready to dust off that old instrument, there’s still time to join the band. You can find more information at www.stanthonyparkband.org, in the St. Paul Public Schools Community Education flyer or by contacting Husby at 651-642-1559 or husby002@gmail.com.

Everyone is welcome and, as is the case in any band, clarinet and percussion players are especially in demand.

Michele Christianson is a piano teacher, musician, writer and frequent contributor to The Park Bugle.
School News

Chelsea Heights Elementary School running club members stretch before their day's run.

We welcome news about students or school events. The deadline for the May issue is Wednesday, May 16. Send your news to editor@parkbugle.org.

Chelsea Heights Elementary School
1557 Huron St., 651-293-8790
www.chelsea.spps.org

Buy flowers at Lindner’s Flower Marts May 11-13 and support Chelsea Heights at the same time. Go to chelsea.spps.org and click on Parent & Community, PT O, then Fundraisers to find a coupon to present at the flower marts.

The End of Year Celebration and Spring Carnival is Friday, May 18, 5 to 8 p.m. The event will include games, a raffle, food and more. Bring the whole family and your neighbors.

Running Club began in April. This year, Como Park Senior High school track students are volunteering to lead more than 90 Chelsea Heights students in grades 1–6. Parents, friends and neighbors are invited to come cheer for the Chelsea during the Chelsea Heights Fun Run on Wednesday, May 16, at 3:30 p.m. on the open grass area at Arlington and Hantline avenues. Running Club will end on Saturday, May 19, at the Medtronic TC Kids Cross Country Run at Como Regional Park.

Other May events at Chelsea Heights include the grade 3 and 4 concert May 2, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.; St. Paul Bagelry Day, May 16; kindergarten program, May 11, 2 p.m.; awards assembly, May 30; and Davanni’s Pizza Night, May 31.

Como Park Elementary School
780 W. Wheelock Parkway
651-293-8735
www.comoel.spps.org

Como Park Elementary School’s Cabaret Night will be Thursday, May 17, 5:30–7:30 p.m. at the school, 780 W. Wheelock Parkway.

The Carnival will feature a raffle, games, bingo, face painting, crazy hair, inflatable jumpers and crafts. Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy the evening’s activities, food and family fun. Proceeds go to maintain the school playground and equipment.

Como Park Senior High
740 Rose Ave., 651-293-8800
www.comas.spps.org

The following students will represent Como Park High School at the State History Day contest on Sunday, April 29: Kathleen M lies (individual documentary), Sundus Haasan and Aisha Mohamud (group documentary), John Proper (individual exhibit), Stacy Yang and M Al Se Yaq (group exhibit), and Anna Fryshead (research paper).

The spring play, “I Hate Shakespeare,” will be held Thursday, May 3, and Friday, May 4, at 7 p.m.

On April 30, 50 JROTC cadets traveled to Des Moines, Iowa, to compete in a regional JROTC competition, culminating a busy season of practice and high operations tempo. It was also the senior cadet final competition.

The Como Park High School Booster Club is hosting a spring fundraising spaghetti dinner Friday, April 27, 5-7:30 p.m., at Como Park Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall, 1376 W. Hoyt Ave. Tickets are $7 per person and are available at the door. The event will include a Prize Drawing Extravaganza. Tickets will be sold during the dinner. All Como families, Como alumni, Como friends and neighborhood families are welcome.

Murray Junior High School
2100 Knapp St., 651-293-8735
www.murray.spps.org

Murray junior high School music students will perform their final concert on May 24 at 7 p.m.

Isak Bowman, Lia Chin-Purcell, Owen Donnelly, Iris Holman and Richard Thompson, represented Murray at the Minnesota State Science Fair. Iris Holman won Best Overall Seventh-Grade Paper. Isak Bowman and Richard Thompson both won bronze medals.

Their projects were in the top 15 percent of the seventh-grade projects.

Four students will advance to the State History Day competition on Sunday, April 29; Benjamin Xenas, Victor Tarsakly, Joseph Wrist and Alexander Korkol. Forty-four French language students visited Concordia Language Villages recently. One of the highlights of the trip was Nora Moore, a former Murray student who is the co-director of the camp this year. Moore graduated last year from Pacific University in Oregon. Moore presented a seventh-grade introduction to French at Murray led her to her current position, she said.

Murray eight-grade Grace Fick received an honorable mention in the poster contest that highlighted Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month in February. The contest was sponsored by Harriet Tubman, a local organization that provides domestic violence services. Fick created a poster demonstrating the importance of trust in relationships.

More than 100 students at Murray Junior High School are busy practicing for the spring sports season: girls’ badminton and softball, boys baseball, and co-ed track and field. For up-to-date schedules and results of all Murray Athletics, visit sports.spps.org.

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School news from 15

News from the art room:

The annual Talent Show will be held Thursday, May 10 at 6 p.m. near the main entrance to the school. Students will learn about the competition teams are heading to the global Destination ImagiNation Adventure is back. Parent volunteers have teamed up once again to bring the Minneapolis Institute of Arts and the St. Paul Art History to the students. The eight teams are:

- Georgia Langer, Tommy Freberg, Jackson Ryswyk, Lara Stein, Chloe Hansen, Jackson Lee and Katrina Sweet.

Two Destination ImagiNation teams are heading to the global competition in Nashville, Tenn., at the end of May. They are listed below.

Six-grade team Flying with No Wings placed second at the state tournament in Champlin April 14. Team members are Forrest Ahrens, Ellen Carlson, Grace Commers, Winnie Commers, Earl Eldridge, Gabriel Reynolds and Eleanor Wrede.

Five-grade team Snider Socks also placed second at the state tournament. Team members are Margaret Johansen, Emily Kuehn, Erin Kuehn and Sydney Remmers.

The family that shaves together

St. Anthony Park residents Carlo, Tanya and Gustavo Juarez-Sweeney were among 40 people who shaved their heads on March 29 at Children’s Hospital to raise money and awareness for children’s cancer research. The Juarez-Sweeney family contributed $3,000 in pledges for the event, which raised $17,000 for the St. Charles’ Fund. Gustavo is a first-grader at St. Anthony Park Elementary School. His sister, Fiona (at right), is a third-grader at the school.

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If you can help, call the SAP Area Seniors office at 651-642-9052 or email office@SAPASeniors.org.

Ceramics, fiber arts show at Raymond Avenue Gallery

Raymond Avenue Gallery, 763 Raymond Ave., will host the show Sticks and Stoneware Organic Makers, featuring fiber artist Nancy Stevens Mackenzie and potter Simon Levin May 11 to June 29.

The opening reception will be held Friday, May 11, 6-8 p.m. Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday and noon-4 p.m. Saturday.

Learn about native plants at June plant expo and market

Landscape Revival, Native Plant Expo and Market will be held on Saturday, June 2, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Community Pavilion at Rainbow Foods in Roseville, 1201 Larpenteur.

A number of conservation organizations and agencies will provide information about native plants.

Eleven local native plant growers will sell non-hybridized native plants and accessory products.

Everyone is welcome at this free event.

School news from 15

near the main entrance to the school.

May 3 from 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and May 4 during the Spring Carnival.

Kindergarten registration will be held Thursday, May 10 at 6 p.m.

Families will learn about the kindergarten program and students will get to ride a school bus.

The annual Talent Show will take place Friday, May 11, at 7 p.m. in the Murray Junior High School Auditorium.

News from the art room: Art Adventure is back. Parent volunteers and the Minneapolis Institute of Arts have teamed up once again to bring art history to the students. The eight pieces of art that students will be studying this month are from a variety of artists.

Students will learn about the art history to the students. The eight teams are:

- Georgia Langer, Tommy Freberg, Jackson Ryswyk, Lara Stein, Chloe Hansen, Jackson Lee and Katrina Sweet.

Other important dates at the school in May are:

- May 15 Memorial Day Concert Friday, May 25, at 1:30 p.m.; D’aww’s Pizza Night, Wednesday, May 30, 4-8 p.m.; and Track and Field Days May 31 and June 1.

Langford Rec Center to host Kids Garage Sale

The eighth annual Kids Garage Sale will be held at Langford Park Recreation Center on Saturday, June 2, from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. The event is free and pre-registration is required. You can register at Langford from 3:30 to 8:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, or 3:30 to 6 p.m. Friday, or go online to www.stpaul.gov.

The family that shaves together

St. Anthony Park residents Carlo, Tanya and Gustavo Juarez-Sweeney were among 40 people who shaved their heads on March 29 at Children’s Hospital to raise money and awareness for children’s cancer research. The Juarez-Sweeney family contributed $3,000 in pledges for the event, which raised $17,000 for the St. Charles’ Fund. Gustavo is a first-grader at St. Anthony Park Elementary School. His sister, Fiona (at right), is a third-grader at the school.
Jerome Korus

Jerome David Korus, formerly of Lauderdale, died April 3 with his family by his side. He is survived by his children, David (Karen), Barbara (Dale) Otson, Theresa (Greg) Zirnes and Louise; three grandchildren; six sisters, Sylvia, Theresa, Dolores, Ellen, Diann and Alice; and two brothers, Stan and Larry. He was preceded in death by his sister Sharon Korus.

At Jerry’s request, no services were held.

Dorothy Lienert

Dorothy Lienert, 95, of Falcon Heights, died peacefully March 26. She was preceded in death by her daughter, Donna Rae, and sister, Marjorie Halls. She is survived by her husband of 66 years, Irvin; two daughters, Sally and Wendy (Douglas) Quammen; and two grandchildren.

Her funeral service was held March 31 at St. Christopher’s Episcopal Church in Roseville, with interment at Roselawn Cemetery.

Masami Matsuda

M asami M. Aida, 89, who designed the Como Orway Memorial Japanese Garden in Como Regional Park, died in February in Nagaokakyo, Japan. Como Park’s Japanese garden, which opened to the public in 1979, was created to symbolize the friendship between St. Paul and Nagaokakyo, the first sister-city relationship established between Japan and the United States after World War II.

In addition to the St. Paul garden, M. Aida created public and private gardens all over the world. From 1970 to 2000, he made seven trips to St. Paul to create and improve the garden. It was involved in every step of its creation, even planting trees and shrubs.

In a letter at a ceremony at the garden in 2000, M. Aida wrote, “My heart is filled with joy that this meaningful lantern-lighting festival is happening.”

It was signed, “I hear man who loves St. Paul more than any.”

Betty Parker

Betty Lorraine Parker, 91, of Blaundauck, MInn., died Easter Sunday, April 8, at the Good Samaritan Assisted Living facility in Blackduck.

She was born April 23, 1920, to Roy and Minnie Dickinson. She grew up in Hibbing, Minn., where she graduated from high school and attended Hibbing Junior College. She graduated from the University of Minnesota-Duluth in 1942.

Betty taught English in Yarmouth, Iowa, for a year and then in Blaundauck from 1943 to 1949. She married Pierre Parker in 1947 and they made their home in Blaundauck. She taught English and speech until her retirement in 1982.

She was a member of First Presbyterian Church in Blaundauck from 1948 until her death. Betty is survived by three children, Mary Jo (Kevinn) Joseph of Monticello, MInn.; Stephen (Cindy) Parker of St. Paul; and Jennifer of Blaundauck; six grandchildren, Mary, Andy, Allard, Perri, Ian, Andrew; and Matthew; three great-grandchildren, Kaden, Parker and Taylor; and a sister, Phyllis Ewell, of New Jersey.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Perrie, in 1990; a son, John, in 1967; a sister, Pearl Sowa, and a brother, Stanley Dickinson.

Gunta Rzentals


Gunta went to Murray High School as a senior her first year in this country. Her entire career as a language professor was spent at Augsburg College in MInn.apolis.

She was preceded in death by her father, Prof. Janis Rzentals, who came to Luther Seminary from Latvia in 1951, and mother, Spodra Rzentals.

Her funeral was held March 30 at the Lutheran Evangelical Lutheran Church in MInn.apolis, with interment at Crystal Lake Cemetery.

Dolores Schwartz

Dolores M. Schwartz, 84, died peacefully March 21, surrounded by her family.

Dolores was a founding member of the Parkway Garden Club, formed in 1957. She was past treasurer of the MInn.apolis Horticulture Society and past president of the 7th District of the MInn.apolis Horticulture Society. She was also a MInn.apolis Horticulture and Federated Garden Club judge. She exhibited and judged flowers at the MInn.apolis State Fair and county fairs for more than 30 years. She will be fondly remembered as the “flower lady.”

She was a long-standing member of Maternity of Mary Catholic Church and sang in the choirs of both Maternity of Mary and St. Andrews’ Church for 60-plus years.

She was preceded in death by two brothers, John and Robert; a sister, Dorothy Nielsen; and a daughter-in-law, Anna. She is survived by her husband of 63 years, Lioe; five children, Dolores (Danie) Patterson, M. Chi, Betty (Steven) West, Robert and Mary (Rogier) Gundy; nine grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

The Park Bugle prints obituaries free of charge as a service to our communities. Send information about area deaths to Mary Margenthal at mary.margenthal@comcast.net or call 651-644-1650.
Roller derby anyone? University Ave. store caters to skating dubs in Twin Cities

By Roger Bergerson

Look out, world, there’s a roller derby revival going on in the Twin Cities and across the country, featuring fast skating, flying elbows and colorful personas like “Barbie Brawl” and “Wanda Wreckonwither,” but no “Shrinking Violet,” thank you.

And Roller Revolution, a new store at 2418 W. University Ave., just east of Highway 280, is where skaters from both in and out of state come for equipment, apparel and roller derby supplies.

In Minnesota, it’s almost entirely women who compete in the adult leagues. Storeowner Gina Flak, herself a former skater (“Curv Vicious”), says newcomers find that once they try roller derby, “they’re hooked.”

“If any women who have never played sports become super-athletic,” she adds, “although they also find out that there are plenty of bumps and bruises involved.”

Roller derby started in the 1930s and was popular TV fare in the ‘60s and ‘70s when viewers watched teams such as the San Francisco Bay Bombers and the Los Angeles T-hunderbirds compete on steeply banked tracks. Flamboyant personalities and theatrics abounded.

That version of the sport faded, but roller derby is enjoying a surge in popularity as amateurs across the country find it’s a great way to get a workout and maybe take on another persona for a while. (Flak has a scientist friend who skates as “Jane Reaction.”)

The banked tracks were expensive to operate, but this is flat-track roller derby, which can be set up almost anywhere.

Locally, there are the Minnesota RollerGirls in St. Paul, with a home track at the Roy Wilkins Auditorium, and the North Star Roller Girls at the Minneapolis Convention Center. And leagues have sprung up in five other Minnesota cities as the sport’s popularity has spread.

Flak moved her store from northeast Minneapolis to University Avenue to have a more central and accessible location, because up to two-thirds of her customers come from outside the metro area. In fact, one woman from Saskatchewan, Canada, recently came to town by train and waited at the coffee shop across from Roller Revolution until the store opened.

It costs from $200 to $250 to get started in roller derby, says Flak, and Roller Revolution carries a full line of skates, protective gear, apparel and accessories for skaters of every level. The store also offers skate maintenance and repair.

Roller Derby is big in the Flak family and two of the children, Taylor (“LaBAM!ba”), 15, and Alex (“Dragonoid”), 9, skate in a new kids league that Flak founded, North East Roller Derby Youth (NERDY). NERDY holds its matches at the Armory in northeast Minneapolis.

In addition, Flak’s husband, Tim (“Whiplash”), spends a lot of time in the Dallas, Texas, area on business and skate there on a men’s team.

For more information on the store, check out www.rollerrevolution.com.

Want to find out more about local roller derby action? Go to www.mnrollergirls.com or www.northstarrollergirls.com/index.html.

Roger Bergerson is a freelance writer and local historian who lives in Como Park.
CLASSIFIEDS

To place a classified ad, send it to classifieds@parkbugle.org or P.O. Box 8126, St. Paul, MN 55108, or call Fariba Sanikhatam at 651-646-5369. Ads are $5 per line. One line is about five words, or 36 to 38 characters. Adding a box around your ad or art costs $10 each. Celebrate births, engagements, weddings, high school graduations and more with a business-card-size ad for $40. The next deadline is May 18.


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For friendly & professional tree service, contact Roger Gatz at 612-414-9241 or www.rogertree.com or 651-699-7022. Certified Arborist.

Join us at these free events!

Our New Neighbors
Appreciating the Immigrant Experience

Re-discover the African Immigrant Experience
Presented by Michael Fondungulah
Monday, May 14 • 6:30 p.m.
Saint Anthony Park Library
2245 Como Ave. | 651-642-0411

A Glimpse into Somali Oral Traditions
Presented by Professor Said Salah, University of Minnesota
Thursday, May 24 • 6:30 p.m.
Rondo Library
461 Dale St. N. | 651-266-7400

This Much I Can Tell You
Two events presented by MCC-Refugee representatives
Saturday, June 2 • 1:30 p.m.
Hamline Midway Library
1558 W. Minnehaha Ave. | 651-642-0293

Monday, June 8 • 6 to 7 p.m.
West 7th Library
265 Onieda St. | 651-298-5516

Special Photography Exhibition
Faces of New America
May through June, 2012
Gaylton’s Buffet Library
645 E. 7th Street
Hamline Midway Library
1558 W. Minnehaha Ave.

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www.sppl.org
Sunrise Community Banks, which includes Franklin Bank, Park Midway Bank and University Bank, was named a 2012 Community Reinvestment Award winner at the National Interagency Community Reinvestment Conference. These awards recognize financial institutions that advance innovative solutions for lower-income communities.

Two of the group’s initiatives, the Socially Responsible Deposit Fund and the New Markets Tax Credit Loan Program, were key in earning this award for their focus on lending in the urban core of Minneapolis and St. Paul.

Sunrise customers may direct their deposits to fund affordable housing, small-business development and community services through the Socially Responsible Deposit Fund. Led by Park Midway Bank, the New Markets Tax Credit Loan Program was established through a $25 million award from the U.S. Department of the Treasury to encourage investment in economically distressed communities throughout the Twin Cities.

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St. Anthony Park resident Jeff Blodgett has been named the Minnesota state director of President Obama’s re-election campaign, Obama for America, resuming the role he had in 2008. Blodgett ran the late U.S. Sen. Paul Wellstone’s political efforts and Wellstone Action.

The Colossal Cafe, 2315 Como Ave., has received preliminary approval for outdoor dining and is now awaiting final approval on a beer and wine license. Park Midway Bank, 2300 Como Ave., has offered the use of its parking lot for restaurant patrons after banking hours. The cafe opened at the Como Avenue location in December.

Pam Johnson, the new owner of the Little Wine Shoppe on Carter Avenue, was incorrectly identified as Pam Austin in the April issue of the Park Bugle. Johnson and her husband, Austin, purchased the store from Jeff Huff in March.

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