Of farm fields and fairs

How does Falcon Heights fare with two-thirds of the city taken up by the University of Minnesota’s agricultural campus and the state fairgrounds?

By Anne Holzman

If you check the website for Falcon Heights, you’ll see it in the slogan: It’s the city of “Family, Fields and Fair.” The “fields” refer to the University of Minnesota’s world-class agricultural campus. The “fair,” of course, is the second-largest state fair in the country.

The Minnesota State Fairgrounds occupy 320 acres, slightly less than St. Paul’s Como Park, most of it within the city of Falcon Heights. Grounds south of Como Avenue lie in St. Paul.

Combined, the fairgrounds and the university holdings constitute about two-thirds of the city of Falcon Heights, which was incorporated in 1954. Prior to that incorporation, the fairgrounds, once a poor farm, were included in Rose Township.

Living near the fair has well-known advantages and disadvantages in terms of lifestyle, according to Mayor Pete Lindstrom. “When you move into Falcon Heights, you know that for that section of the summer, it’s going to be crazy,” he said.

But the economic costs and benefits are less clear, he said. Neither the university nor the fair pays property taxes.

Many aspects of the Minnesota State Fair are subject to state sales tax, including ticket sales, concessions and items sold at the fair and at other events held on the grounds throughout the year. But that money does not go to the City of Falcon Heights.

Minninesota’s local government-aid program is intended, in part, to offset the sort of disadvantage Falcon Heights faces in taxable property. But aid formulas are subject to politics at the Capitol and not only have varied considerably in recent years but have been targets for midyear budget balancing, causing scrambles to cut costs.

Recent changes in homestead credits have also eroded the city’s revenue.

Proceeds from fairground events are plowed back into upkeep of the grounds, as governed by the Minnesota State Agricultural Society, which fair literature describes as “a quasi-state agency.”

“We do not get, nor do we want, any help from any government source,” said Minnesota State Fair general manager Jerry Hammer.

The Minnesota State Agricultural Society includes
City of Falcon Heights to 6
Como Park
The District 10 Como Community Council meets at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month at the Como Streetcar Station, 1224 N. Lexington Parkway.

Join the District 10 Environment Committee
The Environment Committee of the District 10 Como Community Council is looking for new members. The committee is made up of District 10 board members and community members and meets monthly to work to maintain, protect and improve the environment of the neighborhood. The committee's work has included removing buckthorn within Como Park and the lakeside of Como Lake, Department of the Environment Committee meets at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at Lauderdale City Hall, 890 Lexington Avenue.

Yoga at Como Park
Yoga in the Park will be held every Saturday through October from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. near the “Tornado” south of the Como Lakeside Pavilion and south parking lot off Lexington Avenue.

Bring a towel or mat and water. Class will be canceled if it rains. Cancellations will be posted at www.blissyogadtcdomin.com, by 8 a.m. Saturday morning. Donations will be accepted by District 10.

Falcon Heights
The Falcon Heights City Council meets at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at Falcon Heights Spring Hill, 277 W. Larpenteur Ave.

Ice cream social
The annual Falcon Heights ice cream social is Tuesday, July 26, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Community Park, 5050 Roselawn Ave. T racial events will feature bouncy castle rides, live bands, kids activities, face painting, button making, a fish pond, a minute-to-win-it game and, of course, ice cream. A number of environmental and clean-energy groups will be on hand to answer questions on conserving energy. Also, by selling on the survey table at the event to complete a resident survey.

Register for August camps
Register now for August camps. There are many registration options online at www.falconheights.org, by phone at 651-792-7600 or in person at City Hall, 277 Larpenteur Ave. August programs include tae kwon do, tennis, nature camps, Harry Potter Camp, lacrosse and carpentry.

Lauderdale
The Lauderdale City Council meets at 7:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at Lauderdale City Hall, 890 Lexington Avenue.

Energy Audit or call 1-800-895-4999.
Wayfinding Art Bikes
Local artist Carrie Christiansen is still looking for bikes and volunteers to decorate them for her Irrigate Arts wayfinding project. Please email carrisnchrisensen@gmail.com if you are interested in donating a bike to help create the wayfinding signage.

In addition, Carrie has created a Google doc to allow neighbors to post their ideas for locations for the wayfinding visits. Visit sppc.org/wayfinding for the link.

Beat the heat at home
Sweltering hot is a good time to schedule a home energy audit with Xcel Energy and the Neighborhood Energy Connection. Learn how to keep your home cooler and your energy bill down. The audit will look at other factors contributing to summer-home heat gain, including lighting, solar exposure and heat generated by electronics and appliances. Call 1-800-895-4999.

Biking on Como Avenue
Working with Bike Walk Move, Smart Trips has created a map highlighting destinations along Como Avenue, featuring the biking, walking and transit routes to reach those destinations from the southeast Como neighborhood in M inneapolis all the way to the State Capitol. The map is available at neighborhood coffee shops, restaurants, businesses, recreation centers, libraries and at the St. Anthony Park Community Council website. Download a PDF at www.smart-trips.org.

National Night Out
The citywide neighborhood celebration, National Night Out, is Tuesday, Aug. 7. Check with your block leader for activities on your street. If you would like to share information about a block party, send it to lauren@sppc.org to have it posted on the SAPP website.

To register with the city go to www.stpaul.gov/index.aspx?NID=45 52.

District 12 annual meeting
The St. Anthony Park Community Council’s annual meeting will be held Wednesday, Sept. 12. Stay tuned on www.sppc.org for details.

St. Anthony Park Home Tour
Save the date: The St. Anthony Park HomeTour will be held Saturday, September 29. Mark your calendars now and $20 on the day of the tour. Tickets are available at www.sppc.org/hometour and will be available at local merchants in September.

Pop-Up Shop
Stop by the St. Anthony Park Pop-Up Shop, 2401 University Ave., or visit starlingproject.com to find out what’s happening in August. The project is part of a series of events to help launch south St. Anthony Park’s growing identity as the Creative Enterprise Zone.
Artist’s pen-and-ink drawings aim to ‘illuminate’ new book of essays

By Kristal Leebrick

Nate Christopherson describes author Amy Leach’s new collection of nonfiction essays, Thinking That Ate You, as “a book about curiosity.”

The Avalon School special education teacher illustrated the book, which was published by Milkweed Editions in July with pen-and-ink drawings that he hoped would echo Leach’s meditations on plants and animals.

“She’s a really interesting brain to be inside,” he says. “The first half is bizarre curious animal phenomena. The second half is really about space. It’s kind of a metaphysical book. It’s like you are inside her head.”

The book design is meant to be “an illumination of her writing,” Christopherson says. “It reminds me of the old medieval books they used to do that are an explanation of everything. They’d have chapters on cities. What do cities look like? And how do cities work and then, and they’d have beautiful illustrations with them to illuminate them.”

Leach is a beautiful, curious writer,” he says. “It’s really hard to do justice in a way.”

Christopherson says his work is influenced by the wood engravings from the Works Progress Administration (WPA) era, particularly Rockwell Kent. The WPA was a part of President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s New Deal program, which created jobs through a number of public works projects and large arts, drama, media and literacy programs.

“I certainly looked at some of his stuff when I was doing this,” he says. Christopherson has a lot of experience with wood engraving, the production type of illustration in the 1800s through the middle of the 1930s. But wood engraving is extremely time consuming, he said, so he drew his images on a translucent material called plate, which allowed him to draw black lines and then scrape away white lines as an engraver would.

Christopherson, 31, grew up in St. Anthony Park and now lives in Como Park with his wife and 20-month-old daughter. He took some classes at Central at Central High School in the late 1990s, but says he really started doing a lot of art at St. Olaf College, where he took his first printmaking course.

After graduating with an art degree, he went on to graduate school to get his special education degree. In many ways, he is following the path of both of his parents. His father, Charlie Christopherson, is a media specialist and librarian at John Glenn Middle School in North St.

Paul H. Is mother, Tara Sweeney, is an art professor at Augsburg College in Minneapolis.

After working at the High Point Center for Printmaking, he says he began to think about illustration and working on the technical aspects of drawing shadow and light. That moved him into black-and-white illustrations, he says.

Christopherson didn’t meet Leach until they had their first round of Twin Cities publishing events in July, including one at Mciaffer’s Books on July 13. Despite that, he said, through the course of the work he felt “she’s sort of a kindred spirit. There’s this whimsical thing to her writing that I really love,” he says. “I really love curiosity.”

Leach, Christopherson and the editor, Patrick Thomas, collaborated through most of the book’s production process via email, a process that worked well for Christopherson.

“My experience with this has caused me to move a lot more into collaboration with people because it was so much fun to work with other people to get their take on things, to incorporate their views and what they were excited about. It made the work a lot better, I’d say. You end up in a really good conversation that will take you somewhere you wouldn’t go. That’s what happened with this both from reading the book and talking with Amy and the editor, Patrick. I got to go in a direction that I probably wouldn’t have gone on my own. I learned a ton of stuff about drawing.”

You can find out more about Christopherson’s thoughts on illustrating this book at http://milkweed.org/blog/interviews/nate-christopherson-on-illustrating-amy-leach-things-that-are. You can also find the book at Mciawar’s, 2238 Carter Ave.

“The second half is really about space. It’s kind of a metaphysical book. It’s like you are inside her head.”

In the year 3,000,022,012 the Andromeda Galaxy may collide with our Milky Way. At first this sounds miserable, like a collision of two bird flocks. But galaxy members fly farly, not tip to tip. In a galactic collision the stars do not actually collide—as with crisscrossing marching ban
ds, only the interstices collide.—Nate Christopherson’s illustration above introduces Amy Leach’s essay, “Love-in-Idleness,” in the book Things That Are.

Scouts to host Pinewood Derby racing at Park B4 Dark

Boy Scout Pack 22 will set up its Pinewood Derby track and host an evening of racing during the Aug. 16 Park B4 Dark in St. Anthony Park. The racing will take place from 5 to 8 p.m. in the parking lot of Pack Mckay Bank, 2300 Como Ave. Scouts and leaders will be on hand to guide and help prospective new scouts and the neighborhood enjoy racing.

Boys kindergarten through fifth grade can join Cub Scouts; boys 11 to 18 can join Boy Scouts. Scouts, former scouts and Pack 22 alumni are invited to bring their old cars to race and share.

This event is sponsored by Pack 22, Troop 17 and Park Mckay Bank.

AUGUST 2012 • PARK BUGLE 3
**EDITORIAL**

**Sharing the bounty**

Many area groups are doing just that in big ways and small this summer. Let's start with the free bottles of water, freezepops and blasting sprinklers that congregants at St. Anthony Park United Methodist church offered to Fourth in the Park participants as they made their way from the annual July 4 parade on Como Avenue to Langford Park on a day that boiled recorded high temperatures. M. Elaine H. Oman, the new pastor at the church, began her tenure with one mighty neighborly gesture.

St. Anthony Park Garden Club volunteers are spending time each day watering the new trees recently planted by the city on Como Avenue. The City of Falcon Heights is encouraging gardeners to share their produce by dropping it off at city hall during regular business hours or during city council meetings. The food is being donated to a local food shelf.

Peace Lutheran Church in Lauderdale is working from the same playbook: the church makes produce available from its community garden every Sunday to neighbors who need it and also donates a portion of the produce to Kyoteo Community Services.

And last, Muffuletta, the 35-year-old restaurant in Milton Square, is opening its doors to the community: the church makes produce available from its community garden every Sunday to neighbors who need it and also donates a portion of the produce to Kyoteo Community Services.

**LETTERS**

The Park Bugle welcomes letters and comments from its 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 September issue is Wednesday, Aug. 8.

**Endorsements for Sue Jeffers**

**For Ramsey County Board**

Sue Jeffers will bring much needed leadership to our local government. I endorse her for the District 2 seat.

**Editors note**

Sue Jeffers has the experience and the common sense to stop wasteful spending and be responsible with our tax dollars. Sue will listen to our concerns and act on our behalf. She will be accountable to us.

**Support**

We are supporting Sue Jeffers because of her endorsements and her experience. She will listen to our concerns and act on our behalf. She will be accountable to us.

**Holy steal an idea from another publication, Batman**

Yes, we know, a famous magazine that comes out of New York City does this all the time cartoon caption contests. We tried our own last month and two of our readers were willing to climb out of their air-conditioned Bat Caves to help.

We tried our own last month and two of our readers were willing to climb out of their air-conditioned Bat Caves to help. Yes, we know, a famous magazine that comes out of New York City does this all the time: cartoon caption contests. We tried our own last month and two of our readers were willing to climb out of their air-conditioned Bat Caves to help.

We tried our own last month and two of our readers were willing to climb out of their air-conditioned Bat Caves to help. Yes, we know, a famous magazine that comes out of New York City does this all the time: cartoon caption contests. We tried our own last month and two of our readers were willing to climb out of their air-conditioned Bat Caves to help.

We tried our own last month and two of our readers were willing to climb out of their air-conditioned Bat Caves to help. Yes, we know, a famous magazine that comes out of New York City does this all the time: cartoon caption contests. We tried our own last month and two of our readers were willing to climb out of their air-conditioned Bat Caves to help.

We tried our own last month and two of our readers were willing to climb out of their air-conditioned Bat Caves to help. Yes, we know, a famous magazine that comes out of New York City does this all the time: cartoon caption contests. We tried our own last month and two of our readers were willing to climb out of their air-conditioned Bat Caves to help.

We tried our own last month and two of our readers were willing to climb out of their air-conditioned Bat Caves to help. Yes, we know, a famous magazine that comes out of New York City does this all the time: cartoon caption contests. We tried our own last month and two of our readers were willing to climb out of their air-conditioned Bat Caves to help.
By Adam Granger

Growing up in Oklahoma, one of the big summertime thrills was when a city employee would drive down the alleys of my hometown in an olive drab army surplus jeep spraying for insects. We would be playing in somebody’s back yard when, like M’shugga Rabbi O’Reilly, someone would hear the jeep coming and yell, “Theddt guy!” and we’d grab our bikes and take off after him.

He was not hard to find, what with the loud hiss created by the compressor blasting. Lord knows what chemicals into the atmosphere and the opaque cloud it created. That cloud was our goal: riding through it while trying not to bump into each other (or the jeep) was the most fun we had with our bikes all year. We’d trail along about 10 feet behind the DDT guy as he crept down alley after alley until eventually he turned around and said, “You kids probably shouldn’t be breathing this stuff.”

Understatement of the decade. Imagine what 50s/60s vintage bug poisons comprised that respiratory cocktail. It’s a wonder I still have lungs and that, as far as I can tell, I didn’t get prickly with me for encouraging foot traffic behind their houses, let me point out a benefit not heretofore mentioned and one that must be included in 21st-century America: crime prevention. Non-larcenous alley pedestrians discourage larcenous alley pedestrians. And while those houses themselves often have been remodeled, rebuilt or otherwise updated, a trip down an alley reveals century-old garages, carriage houses and sheds, and as well as miscellanea like hay bicks, disc harrows and smithies. All right, I added those last three for color, but you get the picture: alleys are always the oldest parts of a neighborhood.

As a child, riding the Rock Island Line from Chisholm, Okla., to St. Paul took us through Kansas City, and I remember on one of those trips having what I assumed was my first metaphorical thought: Train tracks and alleys— with a capital A—of the cities and towns through which they pass. (All right, it’s not Ernest Hemingway, but the next time you take Amtrak to Chicago, check out the view you get of M Ilwakae and tell me I’m wrong.)

From the vantage point of one who has Forrest Gumped alleys all over the country, I am happy to report that St. Paul’s are world class. I first experienced visiting my grandparents over Christmas vacation, when we dined and strolled down a hill in the alley between Sargent and Princeton avenues. I’m sure it was dangerous, and I’m not recommending that anyone do it this winter, but like tailing the DDT guy, sledging down alleys was countenance if not actually encouraged back then. It sure was fun, and it was safer than the streets, I guess.

Half a century later, I daily walk St. Anthony Park’s alleys, which are jewels on the backside of St. Paul’s crown. Whether the long, straight up- and downhill alleys between Cleveland and Raymond avenues and Howe and Chelmsford streets or the smaller, curvier, generally unpaved and sometimes-right-angled shorties that dot the neighborhood or the really cool H-shaped ones (of which there are several), these alleys are the best.

My intent here is not to prescribe tours down certain alleys following certain routes, but rather to promote the traversal of our alleys in general. And last homeowners get prickly with me for encouraging foot traffic behind their houses, let me point out a benefit not heretofore mentioned and one that must be included in 21st-century America: crime prevention. Non-larcenous alley pedestrians discourage larcenous alley pedestrians.

In the 50 years since my first simple alley metaphor, I’ve come up with others: An alley is the little brown lump on your dinner plate that looks inedible but turns out to be a butter-soaked bacon-stuffed shiitake mushroom and only the best thing you’ve ever eaten. An alley is the mousy guy at the party who turns out to be a mushroom and only the best thing you’ve ever eaten. An alley is the mousy guy at the party who turns out to be a mushroom and only the best thing you’ve ever eaten. An alley is the mousy guy at the party who turns out to be a mushroom and only the best thing you’ve ever eaten. An alley is the mousy guy at the party who turns out to be a mushroom and only the best thing you’ve ever eaten. An alley is the mousy guy at the party who turns out to be a mushroom and only the best thing you’ve ever eaten. An alley is the mousy guy at the party who turns out to be a mushroom and only the best thing you’ve ever eaten. An alley is the mousy guy at the party who turns out to be a mushroom and only the best thing you’ve ever eaten. An alley is the mousy guy at the party who turns out to be a mushroom and only the best thing you’ve ever eaten. An alley is the mousy guy at the party who turns out to be a mushroom and only the best thing you’ve ever eaten. An alley is the mousy guy at the party who turns out to be a mushroom and only the best thing you’ve ever eaten. An alley is the mousy guy at the party who turns out to be a mushroom and only the best thing you’ve ever eaten. An alley is the mousy guy at the party who turns out to be a mushroom and only the best thing you’ve ever eaten. An alley is the mousy guy at the party who turns out to be a mushroom and only the best thing you’ve ever eaten. An alley is the mousy guy at the party who turns out to be a mushroom and only the best thing you’ve ever eaten. An alley is the mousy guy at the party who turns out to be a mushroom and only the best thing you’ve ever eaten. An alley is the mousy guy at the party who turns out to be a mushroom and only the best thing you’ve ever eaten. An alley is the mousy guy at the party who turns out to be a mushroom and only the best thing you’ve ever eaten. An alley is the mousy guy at the party who turns out to be a mushroom and only the best thing you’ve ever eaten. An alley is the mousy guy at the party who turns out to be a mushroom and only the best thing you’ve ever eaten. An alley is the mousy guy at the party who turns out to be a mushroom and only the best thing you’ve ever eaten. An alley is the mousy guy at the party who turns out to be a mushroom and only the best thing you’ve ever eaten. An alley is the mousy guy at the party who turns out to be a mushroom and only the best thing you’ve ever eaten. An alley is the mousy guy at the party who turns out to be a mushroom and only the best thing you’ve ever eaten. An alley is the mousy guy at the party who turns out to be a mushroom and only the best thing you’ve ever eaten. An alley is the mousy guy at the party who turns out to be a mushroom and only the best thing you’ve ever eaten. An alley is the mousy guy at the party who turns out to be a mushroom and only the best thing you’ve ever eaten. An alley is the mousy guy at the party who turns out to be a mushroom and only the best thing you’ve ever eaten. An alley is the mousy guy at the party who turns out to be a mushroom and only the best thing you’ve ever eaten. An alley is the mousy guy at the party who turns out to be a mushroom and only the best thing you’ve ever eaten. An alley is the mousy guy at the party who turns out to be a mushroom and only the best thing you’ve ever eaten. An alley is the mousy guy at the party who turns out to be a mushroom and only the best thing you’ve ever eaten. An alley is the mousy guy at the party who turns out to be a mushroom and only the best thing you’ve ever eaten. An alley is the mousy guy at the party who turns out to be a mushroom and only the best thing you’ve ever eaten. An alley is the mousy guy at the party who turns out to be a mushroom and only the best thing you’ve ever eaten.
Theater camp from 1

Theater camp from 1

City of Falcon Heights from 1

City of Falcon Heights from 1

City of Falcon Heights from 1

City of Falcon Heights from 1

City of Falcon Heights from 1

City of Falcon Heights from 1

City of Falcon Heights from 1

City of Falcon Heights from 1

City of Falcon Heights from 1

City of Falcon Heights from 1

City of Falcon Heights from 1

City of Falcon Heights from 1

City of Falcon Heights from 1

City of Falcon Heights from 1

City of Falcon Heights from 1

City of Falcon Heights from 1

City of Falcon Heights from 1

City of Falcon Heights from 1

City of Falcon Heights from 1
If these trees could talk

District 10’s award-winning trees are ‘silent witnesses’ to homes’ histories

By Sharon Shinomiya

The Como Tree Appreciation Awards were developed three years ago by the District 10 Como Community Council Environment Committee to highlight the value and importance of residential trees for homeowners and their neighbors. This year, five winners were chosen from nominations submitted by the public. A gnarled old birch, a young bur oak, a majestic sugar maple, a pair of sentinel white pines and a dignified silver maple.

A neighbor out for a bike ride noticed Ankita and Pam Trojeys’ paper birch, recognized it was no ordinary tree, and decided to nominate it. The tree stands in the front yard of 832 W. Nebraska Ave. When the Trojes moved into the 1953 home in the mid-1980s, the tree was already there.

“There had been an ash on the boulevard that kept it from growing out toward the street,” said Bernie Troje. “I really don’t know what else kept it from growing straight up instead of bushing out like it has.” A large low branch grows straight across the front yard, providing privacy in the summer and a place for grandchildren to swing from on their way into the house to visit. “I love that branch,” said Bernie. “It’s really gives the tree character.” Though he said it can be an obstacle when cutting the grass, “I’ve bonked my head on it quite a few times.”

Beth Robelia and Dan Wenkl’s birch was a wedding gift from Dan’s parents. They planted it nine years ago in the front yard of their 1904 farmhouse, noting that the grass wouldn’t grow beneath the tree. “I’ve been sort of surprised that the grass wouldn’t grow there, especially when there’s smaller grass that grows on the east side of the house,” Beth said.

Kenton Spading and his wife, Irene, have lived at 1586 Grotto St. since 1986 and estimate that their front-yard sugar maple tree is about 75 to 100 years old. “It through thick and thin, it grates me each day with a smile,” Kenton Spading said. He could just as well have nominated his silver maple but he admires the sugar maple for its gorgeous color changes, from red budding leaves in the spring to green and then orange and red in the fall.

Spading considers the tree a silent “sorcerer” in history and a provider of shade and comfort. “If only the tree could talk and relate the history of my house and its families to me,” he said.

According to the neighbor who nominated the two large white pines towering over Natina and Tedd James’ home at 2797 H-line Ave.: “You feel just being around them.” Though realtors tried to dissuade the couple from buying this 1904 farmhouse, noting that the grass wouldn’t grow beneath the pines, the couple loved the big trees and felt right at home.

The Trojes have lived in the house for 17 years. Their children, Chandrika and Anikita, have grown up playing and playing in the tree all season, even winter, when they’d climb up the ladder attached to its trunk to suck icicles. In 2008, about a third of the old tree came down during a storm and fell onto the roof of the family’s sun porch. Each year one big branch dies back and the couple trims it off. Only one of the three cables that held the tree together now remains. Its hollow trunk was filled with concrete many years ago.

A neighbor who passes it on her daily walk, noted that branch.” Though realtors tried to dissuade the couple from buying this 1904 farmhouse, noting that the grass wouldn’t grow beneath the tree. “I’ve been sort of surprised that the grass wouldn’t grow there, especially when there’s smaller grass that grows on the east side of the house,” Beth said.

The Sparrs

Park B4 Dark

Park B4 Dark will wrap up its 2012 summer series on Thursday, Aug. 16. The event, held from 5 to 8 p.m. on the third Thursday of each summer month, highlights the north St. Anthony Park business district with an evening of shopping, dining and free music and other activities.

The August event will include a Boy Scout Pinewood Derby race in the Park M Idway Bank parking lot, music at Carter and Como and at Speedy M Art Park, and artist demonstrations at Something New and more.

The event is sponsored by the St. Anthony Park Community Foundation, with support from the Metro Independent Business Alliance (IBA) and the merchants of Como Avenue. Find out more at www.capfoundation.org.
There's going to be a bee bike, a yarn-bomb bike, a mermaid bike, a rainbow bike, a garden bike and more wildly decorated two-wheelers on view come mid-August when artist Carrie Christensen's Wayfinding Art Bike project is installed throughout St. Anthony Park.

Christensen launched the project on July 18 with a public painting party at the District 12 office, 890 Cromwell Ave. The next painting party will be held Wednesday, Aug. 8, from 12:30 to 2 p.m. at Hampden Park. It will be moved to the District 12 office if there is rain.

The decorated bikes will include distance and directional signs and will “radiate out from the Central Corridor” into the rest of the neighborhood, Christensen said.

Christensen is an urban planner and landscape architect who lives in St. Anthony Park. She says she often uses public art in her planning work.

The decorated bikes will include distance and directional signs and will “radiate out from the Central Corridor” into the rest of the neighborhood, Christensen said.

Christensen is an urban planner and landscape architect who lives in St. Anthony Park. She says she often uses public art in her planning work.

The decorated bikes will include distance and directional signs and will “radiate out from the Central Corridor” into the rest of the neighborhood, Christensen said.

Christensen is an urban planner and landscape architect who lives in St. Anthony Park. She says she often uses public art in her planning work.
Let your inner Billy Joel run free this summer. Check out the painted piano in Milton Square that moved in on July 19. It will be open for passersby to play during business hours through mid-September.

The piano, a part of Keys 4/4 Kids Pianos on Parade, is a gift from the Schubert Club, which merged with the Music in the Park Series two years ago. Barry Kempton, the Schubert Club’s artistic and executive director, said the organization wanted to show its continued commitment to the community of St. Anthony Park, where Music in the Park began under the direction of St. Anthony Park resident Julie Himmelstrup, the artistic director of the 34-year-old chamber music series.

“We wanted to do something a little extra,” said Kempton. He described the commitment to Music in the Park and the neighborhood as “as strong as ever.”

The piano, painted by Patty Paulus, is called “Birchbark.” Paulus is married to Stephen Paulus, a M Innnesota composer. The St. Paul-based nonprofit Keys 4/4 Kids has placed more than 20 pianos outdoors in various venues in Minneapolis and St. Paul. A book of piano music accompanies the piano with music written by more than 20 Minnesota composers, including Stephen Paulus.

Muffuletta has volunteered to cover the piano at night and during rainy weather. — Kristal Leebrick

In the mood for a melody?
4-H with its many activities, community for its support. Thanks the St. Anthony Park Scout Troop 17, United Church of Christ and Boy Lutheran Church, St. Anthony Park Lutheran Seminary, St. Anthony Park Bros. Coffee at Como and Carter, until a new bank building was Seminary grounds, it was held at the charitable service events, such as scholarships, meeting expenses and Northern Lights also raised the most nearly perfect.

varieties of pie. The weather was nearly perfect.

The “social” has been held summer months.—

Community Center during non-

month at the Lauderdale

Seth Gaffaney, 10, Northern Lights club reporter, said, “The 4-H pie social was a tasty and fun experience.”

Marshall, the new adult leader, at

Mahlahl, the new adult leader, at 651-65-5248 or the Urban Youth Development Office at the University of M inne sakota.

Northern Lights meets once a month at the Lauderdale Community Center during non-

summer months.—Seth Gaffaney, club reporter, and David Gaffaney

Bluegrass jams, hot pepper jellies Enter your hot pepper jams or jellies in the second annual Hot ‘n’ Spicy JAM boren Sunday, Aug. 5, during the M osquito Bluegrass Jam at the Frank Rog Amphitheatre in Roseville’s Central Park.

Northern Lights is the largest 4-H Club in Ramsey County with nearly 50 members.

Alisa Weber, the club’s outgoing adult leader, said the social was the club’s best ever.

The St. Anthony Park band serenaded hundreds of people who were there visiting with friends and eating their choice among many varieties of pie. The weather was nearly perfect.

This annual fundraiser for the Northern Lights also raised the most money ever. This money is used for scholarships, meeting expenses and charitable service events, such as making sandwiches for food shelters.

The “social” has been held annually since the mid-1990s. Prior to its current location on the Luther Seminary grounds, it was held at St. Anthony Park Bank parking lot until a new bank building was constructed a few years ago.

The following donors contributed to the event: Dunn Bros. Coffee at Como and Carter, Tim & Tom’s Spadey M arket, St. Anthony Park Community Band, Lutheran Seminary, St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ and Boy Scout Troop 17.

The Northern Lights club thanks the St. Anthony Park community for its support.

If you are interested in joining 4-H with its many activities, including making projects for the county and state fairs, demonstrations and other youth development activities, call Amy

at City Hall, 2660 Civic Center Drive. Along with the $5 fee, all entrants are required to submit two unlabeled half-joint jars of their jam or jelly for the contest. Registration ends at 4 p.m. Friday, Aug. 3. No late entries will be allowed.

The Mosquito Bluegrass Jam will include an open jam session from 2 to 3:45 p.m. and performances by the Wild Goose Chase Cloggers, Saqjauch Wristwatch and the Roe Family Singers.

To find out more, go to www.CityofRoseville.com/Parks or call 651-765-4262.

Who put the ‘Rose’ in Roseville? Did you ever wonder what role the famed architect Cass Gilbert played in the history of Roseville? Or who put the ‘Rose’ in the city name?

Find out about the history of Roseville when the Roseville Historical Society presents Early Days in Rose Township, a program at the Roseville Library on Wednesday, Aug. 1, at 2 p.m. Speakers from the historical society will show photos and talk about how families lived, played and earned their living in the “old days.”

Whether you’re nostalgic for the days of your childhood or maybe want the young people in your life to know what Roseville was like in the days before shopping malls, computer games and smart phones, join us for a fascinating look backward.

Cultural Art Imbizo set for Aug. 18 The Women’s Initiative For Self-

Empowerment Inc., invites the women of the Twin Cities to meet at Imbizo, on Saturday, Aug. 18, from 1 to 3:45 p.m. at the Frank Frog Amphitheatre in Roseville’s Central Park.

In addition to the contest, extra jams of jam and jelly will be for sale. Volunteers from the Historical Society center put on the contest, with proceeds from the contest going to the nature center’s budget for environmental education.

Registration for the JAM bonfire begins Monday, July 30, at Roseville Parks and Recreation.

The JAM boren is Aug. 5 during the Mosquito Bluegrass Jam.

The Mosquito Bluegrass Jam will include an open jam session from 2 to 3:45 p.m. and performances by the Wild Goose Chase Cloggers, Saqjauch Wristwatch and the Roe Family Singers.

To find out more, go to www.CityofRoseville.com/Parks or call 651-765-4262.

Who put the ‘Rose’ in Roseville? Did you ever wonder what role the famed architect Cass Gilbert played in the history of Roseville? Or who put the ‘Rose’ in the city name?

Find out about the history of Roseville when the Roseville Historical Society presents Early Days in Rose Township, a program at the Roseville Library on Wednesday, Aug. 1, at 2 p.m. Speakers from the historical society will show photos and talk about how families lived, played and earned their living in the “old days.”

Whether you’re nostalgic for the days of your childhood or maybe want the young people in your life to know what Roseville was like in the days before shopping malls, computer games and smart phones, join us for a fascinating look backward.

Cultural Art Imbizo set for Aug. 18 The Women’s Initiative For Self-

Empowerment Inc., invites the women of the Twin Cities to meet at Imbizo, on Saturday, Aug. 18, from 1 to 3:45 p.m. at the Frank Frog Amphitheatre in Roseville’s Central Park.

In addition to the contest, extra jams of jam and jelly will be for sale. Volunteers from the Historical Society center put on the contest, with proceeds from the contest going to the nature center’s budget for environmental education.

Registration for the JAM bonfire begins Monday, July 30, at Roseville Parks and Recreation.

The JAM boren is Aug. 5 during the Mosquito Bluegrass Jam.

The Mosquito Bluegrass Jam will include an open jam session from 2 to 3:45 p.m. and performances by the Wild Goose Chase Cloggers, Saqjauch Wristwatch and the Roe Family Singers.

To find out more, go to www.CityofRoseville.com/Parks or call 651-765-4262.

Who put the ‘Rose’ in Roseville? Did you ever wonder what role the famed architect Cass Gilbert played in the history of Roseville? Or who put the ‘Rose’ in the city name?

Find out about the history of Roseville when the Roseville Historical Society presents Early Days in Rose Township, a program at the Roseville Library on Wednesday, Aug. 1, at 2 p.m. Speakers from the historical society will show photos and talk about how families lived, played and earned their living in the “old days.”

Whether you’re nostalgic for the days of your childhood or maybe want the young people in your life to know what Roseville was like in the days before shopping malls, computer games and smart phones, join us for a fascinating look backward.

Cultural Art Imbizo set for Aug. 18 The Women’s Initiative For Self-

Empowerment Inc., invites the women of the Twin Cities to meet at Imbizo, on Saturday, Aug. 18, from 1 to 3:45 p.m. at the Frank Frog Amphitheatre in Roseville’s Central Park.

In addition to the contest, extra jams of jam and jelly will be for sale. Volunteers from the Historical Society center put on the contest, with proceeds from the contest going to the nature center’s budget for environmental education.

Registration for the JAM bonfire begins Monday, July 30, at Roseville Parks and Recreation.

The JAM boren is Aug. 5 during the Mosquito Bluegrass Jam.

The Mosquito Bluegrass Jam will include an open jam session from 2 to 3:45 p.m. and performances by the Wild Goose Chase Cloggers, Saqjauch Wristwatch and the Roe Family Singers.

To find out more, go to www.CityofRoseville.com/Parks or call 651-765-4262.

Who put the ‘Rose’ in Roseville? Did you ever wonder what role the famed architect Cass Gilbert played in the history of Roseville? Or who put the ‘Rose’ in the city name?

Find out about the history of Roseville when the Roseville Historical Society presents Early Days in Rose Township, a program at the Roseville Library on Wednesday, Aug. 1, at 2 p.m. Speakers from the historical society will show photos and talk about how families lived, played and earned their living in the “old days.”

Whether you’re nostalgic for the days of your childhood or maybe want the young people in your life to know what Roseville was like in the days before shopping malls, computer games and smart phones, join us for a fascinating look backward.

Cultural Art Imbizo set for Aug. 18 The Women’s Initiative For Self-

Empowerment Inc., invites the women of the Twin Cities to meet at Imbizo, on Saturday, Aug. 18, from 1 to 3:45 p.m. at the Frank Frog Amphitheatre in Roseville’s Central Park.

In addition to the contest, extra jams of jam and jelly will be for sale. Volunteers from the Historical Society center put on the contest, with proceeds from the contest going to the nature center’s budget for environmental education.

Registration for the JAM bonfire begins Monday, July 30, at Roseville Parks and Recreation.

The JAM boren is Aug. 5 during the Mosquito Bluegrass Jam.

The Mosquito Bluegrass Jam will include an open jam session from 2 to 3:45 p.m. and performances by the Wild Goose Chase Cloggers, Saqjauch Wristwatch and the Roe Family Singers.

To find out more, go to www.CityofRoseville.com/Parks or call 651-765-4262.

Who put the ‘Rose’ in Roseville? Did you ever wonder what role the famed architect Cass Gilbert played in the history of Roseville? Or who put the ‘Rose’ in the city name?

Find out about the history of Roseville when the Roseville Historical Society presents Early Days in Rose Township, a program at the Roseville Library on Wednesday, Aug. 1, at 2 p.m. Speakers from the historical society will show photos and talk about how families lived, played and earned their living in the “old days.”

Whether you’re nostalgic for the days of your childhood or maybe want the young people in your life to know what Roseville was like in the days before shopping malls, computer games and smart phones, join us for a fascinating look backward.
Lives Lived from 10

A few years later, she moved to St. Paul and worked as a secretary with the Biochemistry Department at the University of Minnesota St. Paul Campus. It was called Cereal Chemistry at that time.

She met Philip M. iller at the Prom Ball Room on Dec. 1, 1949. They married in 1958 and made their home on Priscilla Street in St. Anthony Park.

She retired in 1980. She volunteered for many years with the Metropolitan Senior Federation Travel Assistance Committee. She also served on the Park Bank Senior Committee and was an active member of the St. Anthony Park Leisure Center. She lived at 1666 Coffman in Falcon Heights for a time, then moved to Eagle Creek Commons.

She is survived by her husband.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated July 6 at Corpus Christi Catholic Church in Roseville, with interment at Ft. Snelling National Cemetery.

Robert Space

Robert W. Space, 81, died June 21. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Jane, his children, Susan M. Collull, Bill (Michele), David (Kemie) and Diane (Bob) Merriam; two great-grandchildren; and a sister, Jeanette Firke. A memorial service was held June 22 at Como Park Lutheran Church.

Robert Vandenheuvel

Robert Louis Vandenheuvel, 78, died June 18, after battling brain cancer for nearly four years. He graduated from Murray High School in 60 years ago and raised his family on Ludlow Street in St. Anthony Park.

He was preceded in death by his brothers. He is survived by Jeanine, his wife of 58 years; his sons, R. Rik, D. Scott (Dawn) and J. arty (Kim); five grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held June 30 at Unitarian Presbyterian Church in Rockford, Minn.

Crossword puzzle answers

H ere are the answers to Dave H ealy’s crossword puzzle, which appeared on page 12 of our July issue.

Thank you for your support of the Fourth in the Park Committee! Thank you for your support of the Fourth in the Park Committee! Thank you for your support of the Fourth in the Park Committee! Thank you for your support of the Fourth in the Park Committee! Thank you for your support of the Fourth in the Park Committee! Thank you for your support of the Fourth in the Park Committee!
Events

1 WEDNESDAY
English Conversation Circle, every Wednesday at 4 p.m., St. Anthony Park library

3 FRIDAY

7 TUESDAY
Wendy’s Wiggle Jiggle & Jam, 10:30 a.m., St. Anthony Park library

14 TUESDAY
Artstart, 10:30 a.m., St. Anthony Park library
Adoptive Parents Group: for parents of children who were foster or in foster care. 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., CHSFS

18 SATURDAY
Pioneer Sampler, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., CHSFS

21 TUESDAY
Science Museum of Minnesota, 10:30 a.m., St. Anthony Park Library

25 SATURDAY
International and Domestic Adoption, 9-11:30 a.m., CHSFS

1 WEDNESDAY
English Conversation Circle, every Wednesday at 4 p.m., St. Anthony Park library

16 THURSDAY

18 SATURDAY
Science Museum of Minnesota, 10:30 a.m., St. Anthony Park Library

21 TUESDAY
Science Museum of Minnesota, 10:30 a.m., St. Anthony Park Library

26 SUNDAY
Sunday Afternoon Reading Group, "Tortilla Curtain" by T.C. Boyle, 2:30 p.m. Micawber’s Books

BLOCK NURSE EXERCISE
St. Anthony Park Area Seniors block nurse exercise classes meet at these times and places:
Tuesdays & Fridays, St. Anthony Park Library, 2245 Como Ave., 3-4 p.m.
Mondays & Thursdays, St. Anthony Park Library, 2245 Como Ave., 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

CONTACT INFORMATION:
Alden Square is located 1 block southeast of the Como and Raymond intersection between Brewster Street and Gibbs Avenue
Children’s Home Society & Family Services (CHSFS), 1605 Eustis St., 651-646-7771
Gibbs Museum, 2097 W. Larpenteur Ave., 651-646-8629
Micawber’s Books, 2238 Carter Ave., 651-646-5506
Spirit United Church, 3204 Como Ave. S.E., Minneapolis, 612-378-3602
St. Anthony Park library, 2245 Como Ave., 651-642-0411

An investment for the future.

Protect your family and your home by investing in a Garlock-French roof.

At Garlock-French Corporation we guarantee our workmanship and you can feel secure knowing your Garlock-French roof will give you years of trouble-free service. We take care of all the details, so you won’t have to.

We’ve provided homeowners quality roofing solutions for 80 years.

We’ve been up on roofs longer, and it shows.

Celebrating 80 years of providing homeowners peace of mind.

Garlock-French Corporation

Source Comics & Games

Open 10:00am to 9:00pm Mon-Sat & Noon - 6:00 pm Sunday!

Book Your Senior Portrait Now!
651/647-0776
chemyphotos@gmail.com
www.chemyphotos.com

Complete Eye Care In Your Neighborhood

Concerned about vision problems, glaucoma, cataracts or macular degeneration? We offer complete eye care for adults and children.
Located in Spirit Anthony Park | 2309 Como Avenue
David Ody, O.D. | 651-644-8102 | www.eyedeals.com

Office Space + Retail shops Residential Condominiums

Wellington Management, Inc.
651-292-9844
www.wellingtonmgt.com
A business resurgence continues on the northwest corner of the Snelling and Larpenteur intersection in Falcon Heights, with the opening of the Cox Insurance building.

The building at 1639 Larpenteur Ave., which first opened in 1959 as a Robert Hall Clothing store, combines the footprint and structural elements of the former Buck’s Unfinished Furniture with a new front addition.

Immediately west of Stout’s Pub, it’s the new home of Cox Insurance Associates, Otto & Associates law firm and Hermès Floral, the latter moving from its longtime location across Larpenteur.

Cox Insurance, the building’s owner, formerly was located at Fairview and County Road D (as was Otto & Associates), but the agency’s steady growth generated a need for larger quarters and more parking, according to Taylor Cox. He is an insurance adviser who represents the third generation in a family-owned business that was founded 60 years ago.

“We also wanted a more central location and a building that we could put our own mark on,” said Cox. “A lot of our employees live in the Roseville/Falcon Heights area and are involved in the community, so we hope to be a real asset to this neighborhood.”

Two entrances on Larpenteur have been eliminated, and the asphalt parking lot in front of the building removed and replaced by landscaping. Parking has shifted to the east and west sides of the building, with access from St. Mary’s and Fry streets, respectively. In addition, a new privacy fence has been installed at the rear of the property.

The renovation was planned with the environment in mind, Cox said. For example, concrete and bricks have been salvaged and reused. Skylights provide natural lighting and the use of recycled carpeting will eliminate the off-gassing associated with new carpeting and promote healthy indoor air quality. A rain garden at the rear of the building will help control run-off, as will prairie grasses planted on the roof that also help insulate the building.

The company is interested in installing solar equipment at some point in the future, Cox said. His father, Ric Cox, the managing principal of the firm, is an accomplished potter, so it’s not surprising that there will be an art gallery on site featuring the work of local artists. There are also plans to offer some of the building’s common areas for use by community groups.

Unbeknownst, Falcon Heights Mayor Peter Lindstrom is glad to see activity at a site that’s been vacant for two years. “We’re thrilled to see them go in there; it’s going to be a beautiful building,” he said. Lindstrom said things are definitely looking up in the area, given the Stout’s opening last year. Of setback was the loss of the Source Comics & Games, which moved out of the property east of Stout’s to the old Hollywood Video site on Snelling Avenue in Roseville.

“I’d be shocked if that property is empty for long though,” Lindstrom added. “It’s such a prime location, with 15,000 cars a day passing on Larpenteur and 40,000 on Snelling.”

Foxy Falafel, the last week of July, Falafel maker Erica Strait will bring her falafel stand indoors this month to the former Caribe site on Raymond Avenue. Known for her food truck at Twin Cities farmers markets, Strait says she plans to open Foxy Falafel in the last week of July.

At press time, she wasn’t sure of the exact opening day, but hours will be 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. until fall, when she plans to open for dinner hours and weekend brunch. Strait will turn the 40-seat restaurant at 791 Raymond Ave. into a counter-service falafel shop. Menu plans are traditional falafel and beet curry falafel with ingredients coming from local farmers markets. Strait is also known for her complimentary pickle bar, and she plans to add new items such as artichoke shawarma, chicken gyro and merguez meatballs. There will also be house-made sodas and Foxy’s kombucha, along with beer and wine once licensing is completed.

Find out more at www.foxyfalafel.com.
Hermes Floral moves to new site

By Roger Bergerson

Everyone at Hermes Floral is convinced that the move across Larpenteur will make business, well, bloom.

"People thought we were closed," says co-owner Sandy Biedler, "which is why we're excited about the increased visibility that the new building will give us. Architecturally, it's going to be eye-catching and our space inside will be very attractive, with an open floor plan."

Biedler and Alan DeGrand were Hermes Floral employees who bought the operation from owners Don and Jim Hermes in July 2011. At that point, the Hermes brothers closed the wholesale/floral operation that was housed in a building just west of the retail store. Then, the new owners shut down the garden center on the retail site because it was no longer profitable.

The overall effect was that the 3-plus-acre parcel took on something of a deserted air, despite the fact that Hermes Floral continued in business with flowers for retail sale, delivery, weddings and funerals, as well as a gift shop stocked with the creations of local artists.

(Although the business retains the Hermes name, the land that has been in the family for more than 100 years is now for sale. Don Hermes said it was "premature" to talk about prospects for future use.)

Looking around the old store, Georgi Sawdy, lead floral designer, said, "We've had so much wasted space here now. The new store will not only be more efficient, it'll be welcoming. We won't be coming out of the back when a customer comes in, well busting in all along. And we'll be doing floral design out in the open, so people can watch if they want to."

There will also be a new, larger walk-in cooler, so customers can go in and select the flowers they want.

By Kristal Lebrick

One of the newest businesses to move into the Raymond-University area is Fawn Friday Kettlebell Training, a strength-training studio that offers private and group classes.

Fawn Friday, the proprietor, will move into her new digs at 2324 Endicott St.—two blocks east of Raymond Avenue between Bradford and Hersey streets and south of Energy Park Drive—on Aug. 1. She had been offering classes and training in buildings in Little Canada and Highland Park.

Moving into south St. Anthony Park is a good fit for her because she lives in Como Park and the location's easy access off Highway 280 will make it convenient for her clients to get to her, she said.

Friday has been teaching kettlebell training for just over five years. Kettlebells are ancient Russian ball-shaped weights with handles on them that practitioners swing in movements that are meant to improve coordination, balance and strength. The iron balls are an efficient way to do any of that, Friday said.

Friday didn't start her fitness career with kettlebells. "I thought I was going to teach yoga," she said. "But I went back to school to be a fitness trainer and absolutely fell in love with strength training."

Her more than 15 years of studying yoga gives her a unique perspective to the way she teaches strength, Friday says. And so her work as a competitive lifter. Friday is a Minnesota state and national record holder in power and weightlifting.

Friday's clients include "marathon runners, triathletes, people who are obese and want to change that, people who have had injuries and are trying to heal." She even works with a carer, she said.

On Saturday, Aug. 4, Friday's studio will host a special kettlebell class with Tracy Reifkind, author of The Swing, published by HarperCollins. Reifkind lost more than 120 pounds at the age of 41 after she began kettlebell training.

Find out more about the studio at www.fawnfriday.com.