



Illuminations

A collection of essays
inspires enchanting
illustrations

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names its 2012
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Park Bugle

www.parkbugle.org

August 2012

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.

Minnesota'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



The July 15 5K Color Run—which hosted more than 18,000 runners—is one of many special events held at the state fairgrounds each year. Photo by Kristal Leebrick

Teen drama

Backyard fun grows into a summer theater camp run by high schoolers

By Roger Bergerson

All it took to get an old MGM movie musical going was for Judy Garland or Mickey Rooney to exclaim, "Let's put on a show!" And that's pretty much how Como residents Cristina Corrie and Molly Rath's got started, too.

Their theater camp for children and teens ages 6 to 18 will ring down the curtain on its third summer with an adaptation of "Oliver!" performed in the Maternity of Mary-St.

Theater camp to 6



ROLL OUT THE PIANO

The Schubert Club brought a gift of music to Milton Square on July 19, when Keys 4/4 Kids delivered this set of ivories to the courtyard at Como and Carter avenues. Here Julie Himmelstrup, Music in the Park artistic director, and Jon Schumacher, St. Anthony Park Community Foundation executive director, test the piano with a lively rendition of "Roll out the Barrel" (we're not kidding). Learn more and see more summer-in-the-city photos on pages 8 and 9. Photo by Lori Hamilton

CITY FILES

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

instigating the creation of the Capitol Region Watershed District, assisting the St. Paul Parks and Recreation Department in cleanups of Como Park and the lakeside of Como Lake, removing buckthorn within Como Park, and the creation and oversight of the Como Woodland Outdoor classroom.

To learn more, visit www.district10comopark.org/environment_committee.html. Contact Jessie at 651-644-3899 or district10@district10comopark.org if you would like to get involved.

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 "Torpedo"

southwest 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.blissiyogastudiomn.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 City Hall, 2077 W. Larpenteur Ave.

Ice cream social

The annual Falcon Heights ice cream social is Thursday, July 26, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Community Park, 2050 Roselawn Ave. The event will feature bouncy castles, a live band, 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, swing by 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, 2077 Larpenteur Ave. August programs include tae kwon do, tennis, nature camps, Harry Potter Camp, lacrosse and carpentry.

7:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at Lauderdale City Hall, 1891 Walnut St.

Puppet Wagon at Lauderdale Park

The Roseville Puppet Wagon will present 15-minute shows on Thursdays, July 26 and Aug. 2 and 9, at 11:30 a.m. at Lauderdale Park, Roselawn Avenue and Fulham Street. New shows will be offered each week. Call 651-792-7006 for more information.

Primary election is Aug. 14

The state primary election is Tuesday, Aug. 14. All Lauderdale residents vote at Lauderdale City Hall, 1891 Walnut St. The polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

St. Anthony Park

The District 12 Community Council meets at 7 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month at South St. Anthony Recreation Center (SSA), 890 Cromwell Ave. The district's Land Use Committee meets at 7 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month at SSA. The Energy Resilience Group meets at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month. Email erg@sapcc.org to find out the location each month. The Environment Committee meets at 7 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of each month at SSA.

St. Anthony Park Garage Sale

If you are interested in participating in this year's St. Anthony Park garage sale in mid-September, contact Rich Nelson at 651-641-1172.

Wayfinding Art Bikes

Local artist Carrie Christensen is still looking for bikes and volunteers to

decorate them for her Irrigate Arts wayfinding project. Please email carrieanncristensen@gmail.com if you are interested in donating a bike or helping to create the wayfinding signage.

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

Beat the heat at home

Sweltering hot summer 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. Sign up online at www.xcelenergy.com/Forms/Home_Energy_Audit or 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 Minneapolis 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 office. Or 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@sapcc.org to have it posted on the SAPCC website.

To register with the city go to www.stpaul.gov/index.aspx?NID=4552.

District 12 annual meeting

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

St. Anthony Park Home Tour

Save the date: The St. Anthony Park Home Tour will be held on Saturday, Oct. 6. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 on the day of the tour. Tickets are available at www.sapcc.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 <http://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.

Dr. Todd Grossmann, DDS
651-644-3685 tagdds.com

Dr. Paul Kirkegaard, DDS
651-644-9216 www.pkdds.com

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VOTE IN THE AUGUST 14TH PRIMARY!

Lauderdale

The Lauderdale City Council meets at

Frac sand update

The District 12 Environment Committee will discuss the air-quality monitoring that has been conducted at the rail beds in south St. Anthony Park at its regular meeting on Wednesday, July 25, at 7 p.m. The committee held a public information meeting on June 27 to address concerns about the sand being transported by rail through the St. Anthony Park and other St. Paul neighborhoods.

This spring, area residents raised questions about uncovered railcars spotted beneath the Raymond Avenue bridge that were filled with sand coming from sandstone mines along the bluffs of southeastern Minnesota and western Wisconsin. The concerns were that inhaling fine particles from the sand could lead to lung diseases such as silicosis.

Representatives from Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway and Minnesota Commercial Railway at the meeting said the sand in those cars has not been processed into finer frac sand, which is used in the hydraulic fracturing process at oil and gas fields throughout the country. Both companies have tested the particles in the sand and found they were too large to pose a health risk, the representatives said.

Steve Yetter, chair of the Environment Committee, said that some of his concerns were eased at the meeting, but others were raised. "I think a big a-ha for many people was the fact that Minnesota Commercial is operating a sand transloading facility in [St. Anthony Park]," he said. "Before the meeting I had assumed that the sand arrived by rail. I don't think many people realized that this massive amount of sand was being trucked in from Wisconsin on [Interstate] 94 to Vandalia and then dumped in a pile before being loaded onto rail cars. There are more points in this process for renegade dust than I had originally realized."

Yetter said the air-quality monitoring conducted by Minnesota Commercial will be discussed at the July 25 meeting, which will be held at 7 p.m. at the District 12 office, 890 Cromwell Ave.

Jim Tittle, a filmmaker who is working on a documentary about frac sand mining, filmed the June 27 meeting and posted it on YouTube. Go to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fTHqxQEYG3E&feature=share> to watch it. —Kristal Leebrick

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, *Things That Are*, 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 does the earth work and the sun, 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 it 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 into the middle of the 1930s. But wood engraving is extremely time consuming, he said, so he drew his images on a translucent material called Opalux, 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 art classes as a student 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.



"In the year 3,000,002,012 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 bands, only the interstices collide."—Nate Christopherson's illustration above introduces Amy Leach's essay, "Love-in-Idleness," in the book *Things That Are*.



Nate Christopherson

Paul. His 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 Micawber's Books on July 18. 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," he says. "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 Micawber's, 2238 Carter Ave.

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 Park Midway 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 5th 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 Midway Bank.

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MINNESOTA STATE FAIR

MEMO

ATTENTION: Residents of St. Anthony Park

Sunday, August 26, the Minnesota State Fair will hold it's 28th Annual 5K Milk Run. The race course begins on the fairgrounds and then winds its way through the St. Paul campus of the University of Minnesota and the St. Anthony Park neighborhood. The race begins at 7:45 a.m. and may affect traffic in your neighborhood between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 9:00 a.m.

Please see the Milk Run map at mnstatefair.org for the specific route. If you have any questions or concerns, please call the Milk Run hotline at (651) 288-4395.

Park Bugle

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The news and advertising deadline for the next issue is Aug. 8.

The Park Bugle is a nonprofit community newspaper serving St. Anthony Park, Lauderdale, Falcon Heights and Como Park. The Bugle reports and analyzes community news and promotes the exchange of ideas and opinions in these communities. The Bugle strives to promote freedom of expression, enhance the quality of life in the readership communities and encourage community participation.

Opinions expressed in the Bugle by the editor, writers and contributors do not necessarily represent the opinions of the board of directors, Park Press, Inc. Copyright 2012, Park Press, Inc. All rights reserved.

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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, freeze pops 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 boasted record-high temperatures. Melanie Homan, 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 Keystone Community Services.

And last, Muffuletta, the 35-year-old restaurant in Milton Square, is sharing its staff with the St. Anthony Park community by covering the Keys 4/4 Kids piano in the courtyard each night and when it rains. You can read about this piano, a gift from the Schubert Club, on page 9.

LETTERS

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 September issue is Wednesday, Aug. 8.

Endorsements for Sue Jeffers for Ramsey County Board

Editor's note: Ramsey County District 2 covers Lauderdale, Little Canada, Mounds View (Precinct 4), New Brighton, Roseville and St. Anthony village.

For 15 years the Ramsey County Board has acted like a secret society. Out of the spotlight, the board has steadily raised your property taxes and their own salaries with rarely any dissent. All of that will change dramatically by electing Sue Jeffers our new county commissioner for District 2.

Sue Jeffers will bring needed openness to the operations of the county board. She will listen to your concerns and explain things in plain language. She will tell you frankly whether proposed spending is

essential or just catering to a special interest. She will dig for the truth and push for reform where needed.

The other two candidates are traditional politicians who will be seeking the inflated \$84,000 annual salary. Sue will work to reduce that salary and then limit increases to no more than the rate of inflation. Sue will outwork the other board members, just as she is already outworking the other candidates in the primary. Vote for Sue Jeffers in the Aug. 14 primary—and again in the Nov. 6 general election.

*Richard "Rick" Moses
New Brighton*

Sue Jeffers is running for Ramsey County commissioner and I'm excited to have such a great candidate

to support. Ramsey County has some major challenges: declining home values, increasing property taxes and road and bridge safety. These factors are causing residents to worry that they won't be able to stay in their homes. Sue has innovative ideas and the common sense to stop wasteful spending and be responsible with our tax dollars.

Sue will listen to our concerns and is active in our community, but most important, she will be accountable to us. Sue will work to make Ramsey County government more efficient, effective and affordable. She will work hard for sound economic development, fiscal responsibility and will hold the line on county property tax increases. During this time of economic decline, Sue is exactly the right

candidate for the job.

Please help me support Sue Jeffers at the Aug. 14 primary.

*Susan Erickson
New Brighton*

You say tomato, I say . . .

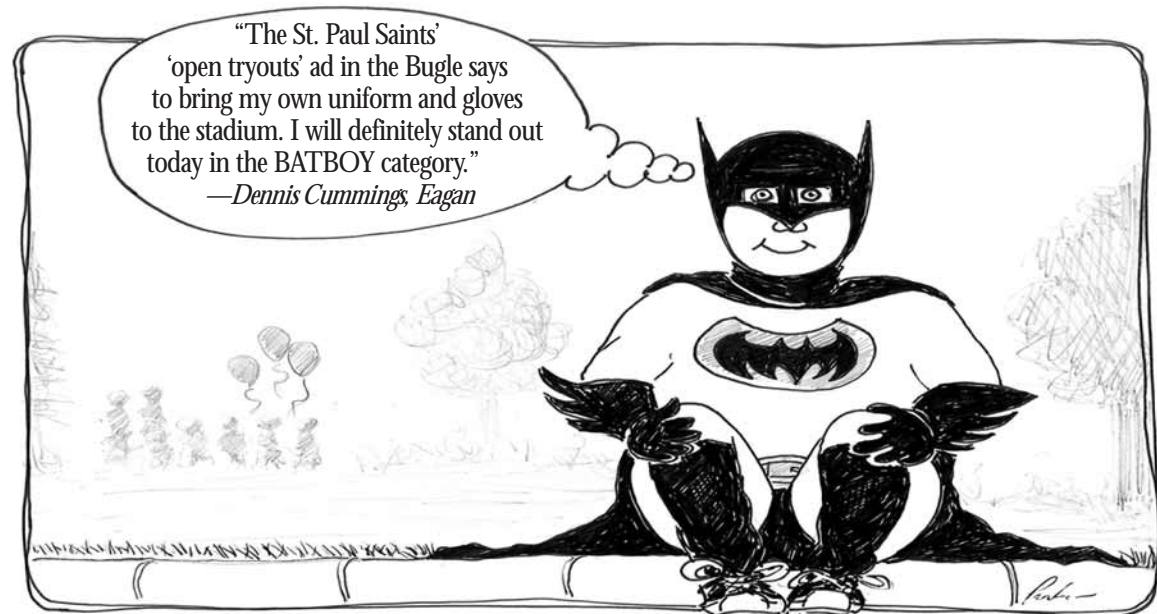
As a newcomer to [St. Anthony] Park (having lived here only 28 years), I am puzzled by something, and hope you or your readers can help. How is Gove—as in Gove Street—the little slightly-bigger-than-an-alley street just east of Park Service--pronounced? Does it rhyme with "love," or "cove"? I certainly hope it doesn't rhyme with "move."

*Esme Evans
Grantham Street
(I do know how to pronounce that one!)*

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 participate. The winning caption came from Dennis Cummings of Eagan, who read the June issue of the Park Bugle while visiting his mom at the St. Anthony Park Home.

Our runner-up is Jay Schrader of St. Anthony Park who submitted not one but two captions. Holy piercing pencils, Batman. We're sending them both a bag of sharpened Bugle pencils, perfectly pointed—as promised—by Steve.



The consolation prize: "Great Gotham! I certainly hope that amendment doesn't pass on Nov. 6. I have a dream that someday Robin and I will be able to marry!"

or

"Incredible invasions! I certainly hope that voter ID amendment doesn't pass. Otherwise I will be forced to reveal my true identity and the location of the secret Bat Cave just to exercise my constitutional right."

—Jay Schrader, St. Anthony Park

We hit our goal!

Thank you to all who donated to the Bugle Fund Drive in 2011–12. Because of your generosity, we were able to exceed our fundraising goal of \$35,000. More important, your gifts mean that we are able to continue to bring you the news of what is happening in your neighborhood each month. On behalf of the Bugle Board of Directors, thank you.

*Blaine Thrasher,
fund drive chair*

The following people helped bring our year-end total to \$35,392.34 in the last month.

Farhad Anklesaria &
Krista Nelson
Wendell Deboer
Derek Fried &
Elizabeth Currie
Terrence Gockman &
Jeanne Schacht
John & Judith Howe
Ross Jackson &
Elizabeth Wilson
Christina Kelly
Bill & Mary Lerman
William & Nancy Lorimer
William &
Martha Marchand
Mark Nolan
Martin Wolf & Mary Ryan

COMMENTARY

Touring the back roads

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 Mash's Radar O'Reilly, someone would hear the Jeep coming and yell, "The DDT 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 grail; riding through it while trying not to bump into each other (or the Jeep) was the most fun we had with our bikes all summer. We'd trail along about 10 feet behind the DDT guy as he crept down alley after alley until eventually he'd turn around and say, "You kids probably shouldn't be breathing this stuff." Understatement of the decade: Imagine what '50s-vintage bug poisons comprised that respiratory cocktail. It's a wonder I still have lungs and that, as far as I can tell, they still function.

But I'm not writing today about Jeeps or the respiratory system or insecticides; the topic is alleys. I hope the reader will forgive the cumbersome and potentially lethal intro, but my love of alleys was born in those halcyon days, and the DDT guy was part of that, well, environment.

Ben Johnson, Renaissance man of letters and sometimes-Shakespeare rival, wrote of King James I, "He despises me, I suppose, because I live in an alley: tell him his soul lives in an alley." That was obviously supposed to be a slam on old James, but when I die, I wouldn't mind having the last half of that quote on my tombstone, for I much prefer alleys to streets.

Mr. Johnson's diss to the contrary, alleys are crawling with pluses: they are less-traveled by cars (which, when present, go slower); they are eccentric in length, surface, width and topography; and they offer a unique view of a neighborhood, back yard by back yard.

And what back yards! Many people save their best gardening chops for the real estate behind their houses. 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, as well as miscellanea like hay ricks, 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 Chickasha, Okla., to St. Paul took us through Kansas City, and I remember on one of those trips having what I assume was my first metaphorical thought: Train tracks are the 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 Milwaukee 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 them visiting my grandparents over Christmas vacation, when we'd sled and toboggan down a hill in the alley between Sargent and Princeton avenues. I'm sure this was dangerous, and I'm not recommending that anyone do it this winter, but like tailing the DDT guy, sledding down alleys was countenanced 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 Hythe 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.

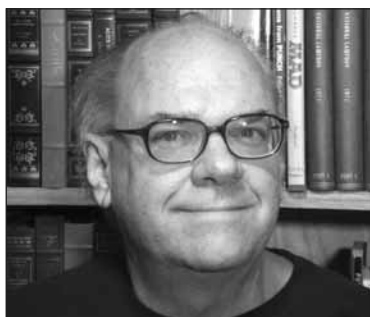
My intent here is not to prescribe tours down certain alleys following certain routes, but rather to promote the traversal of our alleys in general. And lest homeowners get prickly with me for encouraging foot traffic behind their houses, let me point out a benefit not heretofore mentioned and one that 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 tipsy millionaire philanthropist. It's the "Likely" Paradox: The more likely things seem to be one way, the more likely they are to be the other way. Thus, everything requires our scrutiny.

So take your alley hike and see what you think. As for me, when I've walked my final alley, remember me thus:

"Here lies Adam
'Round his grave we rally
Like James the First
His soul lived in an alley"

Adam Granger lives with his wife, son, dog and cat in St. Anthony Park. He teaches guitar and performs around the United States and Canada.



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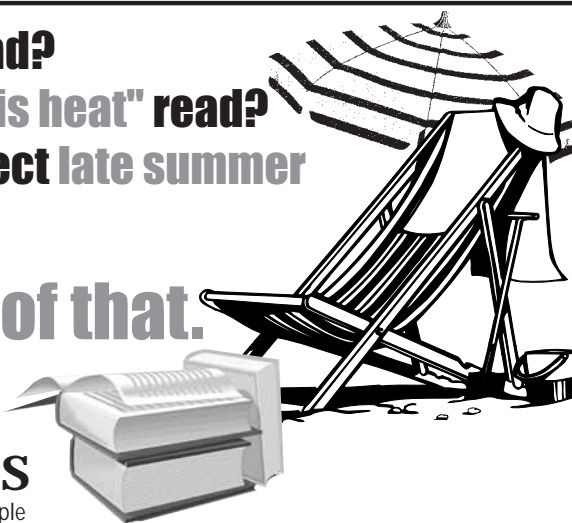
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Theater camp from 1

Andrew's school auditorium in August.

The two friends, sophomores at Roseville Area High School this fall, describe the iPerform Theatre Company as "completely teen-driven."

"This gives us the advantage of knowing how to help the children explore the arts in a way that is both fun and educational," said Corrie. "We have quite a few children who have repeated, so that makes it easier for us to help them get better."

One parent who thinks highly of the program is Connie Mattison, a Como resident whose daughter Megan, 10, participated this summer and has been involved since the beginning. "It's such a great experience for her," Mattison said. "Cristina and Molly are very professional."

It all started a few years ago when Rath was asked by a mother in her neighborhood, just east of Como Lake, if she would be willing to devise some summer activities for kids. She organized skits, including a reading of Dr. Seuss' *Green Eggs and Ham*.

In 2010, things became a little

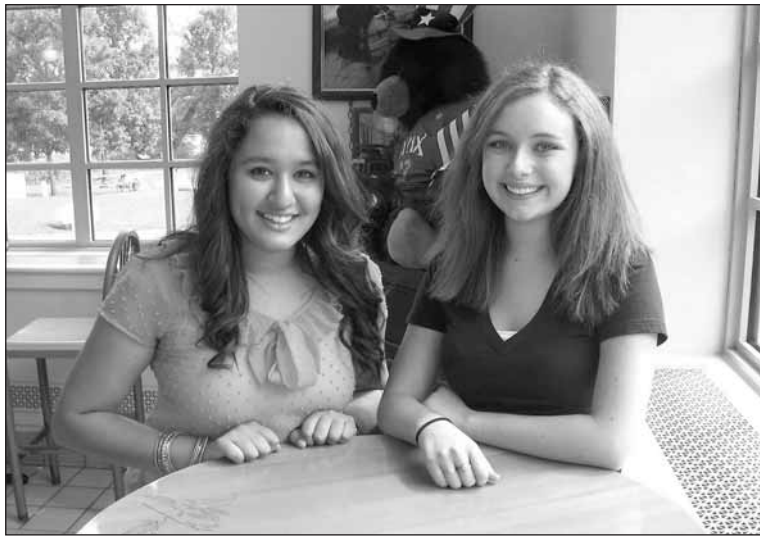
more formal, with rehearsals moving into the nearby Corrie family's backyard and a season-ending performance at Maternity of Mary-St. Andrew's. That year the play was "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory," and in 2011 they performed a version of "The Wizard of Oz."

Corrie directs and produces the plays, including the choreography, music and adaptation of the script, and handles marketing. Rath co-directs and is responsible for the organizational side of the operation.

The camp has gotten better each year, they say, with better organization, better performances, better scenery and props. Their friends help with backstage and production chores.

In addition to the artistic side of the endeavor, Corrie is also interested in its business aspects, probably not surprising since her father, Bruce, is dean of the College of Business and Organizational Leadership at Concordia University in St. Paul.

Concordia is a charter sponsor of Next-gen, a fledgling organization with a mission of encouraging entrepreneurship among young people in the African, Latino, Asian



Cristina Corrie, left, and Molly Rath Photo by Roger Bergerson

and Native American communities. Cristina Corrie said that her participation in the group started her thinking about running the theater camp more like a real business, including charging tuition of \$40 for the five-week session.

That's how iPerform came to be, with Corrie as president and chief executive officer and Rath as chief operating officer. Through a partnership with the City of St. Paul's

Parks and Recreation Department, iPerform was able to use the North Dale Recreation Center for rehearsals this summer and the city handled registration and fee payment online.

Although enrollees can be as old as 18, they have invariably been younger than Corrie and Rath. "Sometimes it's necessary to give somebody a time out," Corrie said. "We're not adults, but we can always tell them that we'll tell their parents if

they don't behave. They don't want that to happen."

Rath said this year's move into North Dale Rec helped the campers stay more focused because the indoor setting offers fewer distractions. "That doesn't mean that everything has to be really serious though," she said. "We want this to be fun too."

Both Cristina's dad, Bruce, and Molly's mother, Patrice, say their own involvement in the project has been minimal, because their daughters are so self-directed. "I think it's been a growth experience for both of them," said Rath. "I know Molly has developed a lot more self-confidence."

"Oliver" will be performed on Wednesday, Aug. 8, at 7 p.m. at Maternity of Mary-St. Andrew's school, 592 Arlington Ave. W. Admission is \$5 for children and \$8 for adults. What's next? iPerform Theatre Company will hold a workshop at the Selby Avenue Jazz Fest on Sept. 8.

And to keep tabs on plans for next summer, check out www.iperformtheatre.com.

City of Falcon Heights from 1

delegates from the state's county fairs and various agri-business groups, under Minnesota Statutes Chapter 37. The society has bonding authority and is audited by the state. It manages the fairgrounds and the State Fair and rents out the grounds to event promoters the rest of the year.

Since 2004, a nonprofit fundraising arm of the fair, the Minnesota State Fair Foundation, has handled a large proportion of the fair's annual income and expenses.

Attracting nearly 1.8 million visitors each year, the State Fair can

be viewed as a major economic engine for the region, and indeed, its permanent location as of 1885 in what was then Rose Township resolved a longstanding competition among municipalities for the blue-ribbon business opportunity that such a large event can become.

Carrie Donovan Ford, director of sales and marketing for the Roseville Visitors Association, estimated the State Fair's economic impact on Roseville hotels, restaurants and retail at \$6.8 million, not counting non-fair events at the grounds.

Falcon Heights does not see the same economic impact. The city has little commercial land and the added burdens of public safety and sanitation during major events at the fairgrounds. Mayor Lindstrom said the fair "used to cost the city money" before the fair began reimbursing Falcon Heights for public safety. Lindstrom now considers it "a wash" from a financial standpoint.

"The question I get oftentimes is, 'You guys must be rolling in it, aren't you?'" from those who assume the city that has the fair also gets its taxes, Lindstrom said. "People have to keep in mind, those are all sales taxes [that go to the state]. The city [of Falcon Heights] does not get a dime."

Merwin Liquors at the corner of Larpenteur and Snelling avenues may be the only business in Falcon Heights that draws extra business from fairgrounds events, he said. Other businesses report that the traffic hassles during the fair and other major events actually cut their sales, he said.

Many people assume that the

fair brings extra business for Falcon Heights, "but I think that's not the case," Lindstrom said.

In 2008, State Fair officials commissioned Markin Consulting to analyze the economic impact the Great Minnesota Get-Together has on the Twin Cities. The study described it in terms of taxes, employment and "spending," which includes an estimation of money "re-spent" in communities around the fairgrounds resulting from income earned on the grounds, as well as jobs "induced" in communities around the fair because of that re-spending.

Markin found an "expenditure impact" in the fairgrounds and surrounding areas of \$185.7 million in 2008 for year-round activities, including the fair.

The year-round "employment impact" was 3,890 jobs (including part-time) plus 1,720 estimated to be "induced" by re-spending of fair income, for a total employment impact of 5,610 jobs.

The fiscal impact, or tax payments estimated to be generated by events at the fairgrounds, was \$5.7 million for 2008, more than \$5 million of that in state sales taxes and the rest in lodging, fuel and local taxes.

Hammer extrapolated the 2008 numbers for 2011, using a 16 percent increase in business over that period. He came up with total expenditure impacts (money spent and re-spent in 2011 in and around the fairgrounds) of \$215,412,000.

A similar calculation for taxes remitted as a result of activities at the fairgrounds yielded an estimate of \$6,612,000 fiscal impact for 2011.

Much of the induced income and re-spending calculated by this economic model flows through hotels and restaurants. Falcon Heights has no hotels, and restaurants are among the businesses too close to the grounds to evade the

traffic impact, Lindstrom said.

Retailers such as Warners' Stellan, at the corner of Snelling and Larpenteur avenues, do not benefit from the fair traffic, he said. No one is going to buy a refrigerator while visiting from out of town, and someone who lives nearby and whose fridge quits working during the fair might drive elsewhere to avoid the traffic.

Lindstrom, who has been mayor for five years and served on the Falcon Heights City Council since 1997, said he receives few complaints about noise and other nuisances during the fair itself.

"What's more of a challenge is the growing number of outside events taking place in the fairgrounds," Lindstrom said. "Things that are more unexpected generate more calls for me."

Jerry Hammer at the State Fair office said that except for the fair itself, "we're landlords," and it's hard to peg the attendance at events sponsored by outside promoters renting the grounds for all the other events.

The calendar has been fairly full in recent years, he said. Many of the events are weather-dependent, he said, so that in a given year, a beautiful weekend might attract large numbers.

The Back to the 50's auto show in June is the largest non-fair event, Hammer said. "They had a record number of auto entries a few years ago. This year they came close" to that record, he said, but the fair does not keep those records.

The Minnesota Street Rod Association posted 11,795 registered vehicles attending the 2012 event.

Lindstrom said that while economic benefits may not be great for his city, fair personnel respond to complaints.

"They are a good neighbor," Lindstrom said.



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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's 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 Bernie and Pam Troje's 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," he said. "It 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 Wenkel's bur oak was a wedding gift from Dan's parents. They planted it nine years ago in the front yard of their home at 1496 Arona St. It and other trees in the yard are important to the couple for another reason—they have no air conditioner and rely on the shade created by these trees to get them through hot summer days. Every year on their anniversary, the couple sets up a tripod and takes a photograph of themselves in front of their tree. "Oaks are long-lived trees and we hope our marriage is the same," said Robelia. "Planting an oak is not something you do just for yourself," she added, since it will not fully mature until the next generation.

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. "Through thick



Bernie and Pam Troje's paper birch at 832 Nebraska Ave. You can see photos of the rest of the trees at www.district10comopark.org. Photo by Val Cunningham

and thin, it greets 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 witness to 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 1279 Hamline Ave.: "You feel better 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, Natina having grown up on a farm. They've owned the home for 20 years, and about 8 inches of newly fallen and decaying pine needles blanket their front yard. When the couple made an addition to their house, they kept all of their trees in mind and used pile footings to reduce damage to their root systems.

The massive old silver maple in the front yard at 1248 E. Como Blvd. has been admired for its grace and elegance for the past 18 years by a neighbor who passes it on her daily walks. "They have obviously taken

good care of it and given it new roles, such as the support of a swing for their children and hanging glass mobiles," she wrote in her nomination.

Ted Benson and Janet Pope have lived in the house for 17 years. Their children, Chandrika and Ankita, have grown up climbing and playing in the tree in all seasons, even winter, when they'd climb up the ladder attached to its trunk to suck on 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.

After storms, neighbors inquire about the old tree. All the care is worth it. "As long as there is one branch for a swing," Benson said, "we'll keep it." As the nominator correctly surmised, these homeowners have "consciously helped their elderly tree maintain its dignity in old age."

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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 Midway Bank parking lot, music at Carter and Como and at Speedy Market's parking lot, 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.sapfoundation.org.

SUMMER IN THE CITY or



Above, Open Eye Figure Theatre brought its puppet show, "The Adventures of Katie Tomatie," to Hampden Park on June 27. *Photo by Kristal Leebrick*



Left, Fourth of July celebrants braved the heat and posed for a group shot at the Langford Park bandstand after the 65th annual Fourth in the Park parade. (See anyone you know?) *Photo by Dave Hansen*



Carrie Christensen paints the spokes on the mermaid bike. *Photo by Lori Hamilton*

Bicycles built for you

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 St. Anthony Park Community Council and Irrigate Arts are collaborating with local artist Christensen to develop a project to encourage non-motorized transit in and around the neighborhood.

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.

She's been busy working with the city to gain approval at the dozen sites where the bikes will be installed. The bikes will be on display until the first snowfall, she said. —*Kristal Leebrick*

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HOT TIMES IN BUGLELAND



“Birchbark” by Patty Paulus. Photo by Lori Hamilton

In the mood for a melody?

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 Minnesota 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

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Loretta Erickson

Loretta Erickson, 79, of Falcon Heights, died July 6.

A prayer service will be held Sun., Aug. 5, at 4:30 p.m., at Corpus Christi Catholic Church in Roseville. Her funeral will follow on Monday, Aug. 6, at 11 a.m., at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Moorhead, Minn.

celebrated at St. Rose of Lima in Roseville on June 22, with interment at Fort Snelling National Cemetery.

Janet Helgen

Janet Beggs Helgen, 78, of Falcon Heights, died peacefully June 11 after a second major stroke.

Janet grew up with her parents and sisters in Edina and was in the first graduating class of Edina High School (1951). After graduating from the University of Minnesota in 1955, she taught elementary school in Minneapolis, San Francisco and River Forest, Ill., before settling in to teach for 26 years in Mahtomedi.

Her favorite activities were hosting dinners for extended family and friends, parties with "the bridge clubs," traveling with her husband, chatting with the neighbors, canoeing, going to the orchestra and theater, spending time at Deer Lake and Sanibel Island and watching her grandchildren grow. She was a spark in many different groups—her immediate family, the Beggs and Blakeman cousins, the group of elementary and high school friends, Pi Phi sisters, Falcon Heights neighbors and friends, OHA teachers and the Helgen clan.

After a stroke in 2004 reduced

her mobility (though not her ability to attend parties, the theater and the orchestra), Janet lived for seven years at Presbyterian Homes of Arden Hills. The family thanks the staff there that tended Janet with the greatest care, affection and good humor.

She was preceded in death by her daughter Melissa Lynn Brown. She is survived by her husband, Lon Helgen; a son, Marshall Brown; and a daughter, Rachel Brown (Lew Anderson); stepsons Erik Helgen (Marie McKeighan) and Steve Helgen (Ellen); eight grandchildren; and sisters Joan Booth (Fred) and July Wilson.

A memorial service was held July 21 at Plymouth Congregational Church in Minneapolis.

Henrietta Miller

Henrietta Lydia Miller (née Novy), 96, died July 1. She was born on a farm just east of Barron, Minn., and attended a one-room school to 8th grade. Then she roomed in Pine City and attended Pine City High School, graduating in the class of 1933. She attended Rasmussen School of Business, then worked in the Biochemistry Department at the University of Minnesota Morris.

Lives Lived to 12

Leo Guertin

Leo P. Guertin, 93, died June 18. He graduated from the University of Minnesota School of Pharmacy. He served as a pharmacist and medic in the U.S. 10th Army, 77th Division, before opening Guertin Drug Stores in St. Paul, one of which was in St. Anthony Park. That drugstore was at the corner of Como and Carter avenues at the current site of the Finnish Bistro.

Leo loved being with his family and was known for his sense of humor. He enjoyed downhill skiing, golf and playing bridge. Leo was a devoted Roman Catholic.

He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth; three sons, David (Myriam), Dan (Alice) and Rich (Sheryl); and a daughter, Elizabeth (Tore) Detlie; 11 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

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Holy Communion on 1st and 3rd Sundays
Rides available for 10 a.m. worship- call before noon Friday
Vacation Bible School: July 30 – August 3. All are welcome! Call 651-646-7127
Pastor Martin Ericson
Director of Music Ministry: Thomas Ferry

❖ **FALCON HEIGHTS UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**
1795 Holton St. at Garden, 651-646-2681
www.falconheightsucc.org
Sundays: 9:30 a.m. worship (summer hours through Aug. 26)
Communion, first Sunday of the month
Sept. 2 – regular Sunday worship hours begin (10:30 a.m.)
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❖ **HOLY CHILDHOOD CATHOLIC CHURCH**
1435 Midway Parkway, St. Paul, MN 55108. Handicap Accessible
Rectory/office: 651-644-7495, www.holychildhoodparish.org
Sunday Masses: Saturday, 5 p.m.; Sunday, 7:45 and 10 a.m.
Daily Mass: 7:45 a.m. with Rosary following Mon.–Thurs. and 6:30 p.m. Thursday
Confession: Saturday, 3:30-4:30 p.m., and Sunday, 9:30-10 a.m.

❖ **MT. OLIVE EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH—WELS**
www.mtolive-wels.net, 651-645-2575
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Pastor Al Schleusener

❖ **PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH—ELCA**
1744 Walnut (at Ione), Lauderdale, 651-644-5440
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2357 Bayless Place. 651-644-4502
Website: www.stceciliaspri.org
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Saturday Mass: 5 p.m. at the church
Sunday Masses: 8:15 a.m. and 10 a.m. at the church

❖ **ST. ANTHONY PARK UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**
2129 Commonwealth Ave. (corner of Commonwealth and Chelmsford)
651-646-7173 www.sapucc.org
9:15 a.m. worship (Summer hours Memorial Day through Labor Day)
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God Is Still Speaking

❖ **ST. ANTHONY PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
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www.sapumc.org, 2200 Hillside Ave. (at Como), 651-646-4859
Pastor Melanie Homan
Sundays: 10 a.m. Worship celebration
11 a.m. Fellowship and refreshments
6:30 p.m. Free Young Adult Dinner in Parlor
Monday: 7:30 p.m. Community Bible Study in Parlor

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Sunday worship: 10 a.m.

❖ **ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**
www.stmatthewsmn.org The Rev. Blair A. Pogue, Rector
2136 Carter at Chelmsford. 651-645-3058
Sunday: 9 a.m. service (Summer schedule)
Wednesday: 10 a.m. service, with Prayer and Bible Study at noon.
Project Home: Our church serves as a temporary homeless shelter for families with young children during the month of August. If you would like to learn more about this important ministry or assist during evening hours, please visit our website: www.stmatthewsmn.org
Please join us. All are welcome!



Neighbors

Murray Class of 1972 to meet

The Murray High School class of 1972 is holding its 40th class reunion on Saturday, Aug. 11.

Registration information can be found online at www.classmates.com or on Facebook at St. Paul Murray High School Class of 1972.

Need more information? Call Holly Glaeser, 612-418-5816 or email hollyglaeser@gmail.com.

4-H pie social is best ever

The Northern Lights 4-H Club held its annual pie and ice cream social and fundraiser on the Luther Seminary grounds in St. Anthony Park on Friday, June 1. 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 one 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 shelves.

The "social" has been held annually since the mid-1980s. Prior to its current location on the Luther Seminary grounds, it was held at the 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 Speedy Market, St. Anthony Park Community Band, Luther 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



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 651-65-5248 or the Urban Youth Development Office at the University of Minnesota.

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 JAMboree on Sunday, Aug. 5, during the Mosquito Bluegrass Jam at the Frank Rog Amphitheatre in Roseville's Central Park.

In addition to the contest, extra jars of jam and jelly will be for sale. Volunteers from the Harriet Alexander Nature Center put on the contest, with proceeds from the contest going to the nature center's budget for environmental education.

Registration for the JAMboree begins Monday, July 30, at the Roseville Parks and Recreation desk

at City Hall, 2660 Civic Center Drive. Along with the \$5 fee, all entrants are required to submit two unlabeled half-pint 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, Sasquatch 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 story of Roseville? Or who put the "Rose" in the city's 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 public to its fifth annual Cultural Art Imbizo, on Saturday, Aug. 18, from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Hamline Park Plaza, 570 Asbury St., St. Paul. A \$5 donation is suggested to help underwrite the cost of this event.

The Imbizo will feature local artists, art workshops, international food, entertainment and a silent auction. For more information, visit www.womenofwise.org.

Music Instruction Instrument Rentals

Vienna Community Arts
2380 Hampden Avenue, St. Paul
651.808.5980 www.artsvienna.org

St. Anthony Park Area Seniors presents: 2012 Senior Cinema Series

"The Help" 2-4 p.m. Thursday, August 9, at SAP Library

Nominated for four Academy Awards, "The Help" is the story of three very different, extraordinary women in the racially charged climate of Mississippi during the 1960s. Emma Stone, Viola Davis, Bryce Dallas Howard, Allison Janney, Sissy Spacek and 2012 Best Supporting Actress Octavia Spencer.

Contact the SAP library for more information.

St. Anthony Park Library, 2245 Como Ave.
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Thank you to our St. Anthony Park neighbors and businesses for your generous support of the 4th of July celebration held in Langford Park. This event is made possible because of your volunteer time and financial contributions. It is with appreciation that we thank individuals and businesses that contributed at least \$50 to our community celebration:



Patriot (\$750 or more)
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The Sparrs - Edina Realty
Tim and Tom's Speedy Market
St. Anthony Park Booster Club
St. Anthony Park Home
David Vik
Steve Wellington

Fire Cracker (\$100 or more)
4th Committee
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The Bibelot Shop
Mead and June Cavert
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Todd Grossmann, DDS
Brenda and Mark Hansen
Dave Hansen and Karen Lilly
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Muffuletta
Marty Neus and Beth Brediel-Neus
Mark Nolan
Peapods
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Mark Steinhauer and Leslie Kopietz
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Evelyn Vik
Hilarion and Elizabeth Woronzoff

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Bjorn and Margot Monson
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Nelson Financial Services
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Bruce and Patricia Perizzo
Anthony Pfaff
Gary and Teresa Reineccius
James Roehrenbach, State Farm Insurance
St. Anthony Park Elementary School
Salon In the Park
Sharon Sandgren
Thomas and Janelle Schnadt
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Susan Stacey and Brad Meinhold
Robert and Mavis Straughn
Subway
Blaine and Cindy Thrasher
Cindy Tong and Robert Denison
Anna Lisa Tooker
Bruce and Alisa Weber
Arlene West and Kevin Bevis
Michael Whitney and Susan McCarthy
Thomas Wulling and Marilyn Benson

We attempt to include the names of all who contributed to support the Fourth in the Park celebration. If your name has not been included, please excuse the omission and let us know so that we may properly recognize your gift. **To donate online,** just go to www.sapfoundation.org and click on the "Donate Now" button in the upper right hand corner. You'll be taken to the Foundation GiveMn.org page which features the "4th in the Park" among projects to support. **Or mail your donation to:** Fourth in the Park Committee, PO Box 8062, St. Paul, MN 55108.

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 Miller 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 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 Crest 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 Fort Snelling National Cemetery.

Iris and Ed Slettom

Iris I. Slettom, 94, died May 30. Her husband of 68 years, World War II veteran Ed Slettom, 90, died four days later on June 3. Both died at Golden Horizons in Aitkin, Minn., where they lived together the past four years.

They lived in St. Anthony Park from 1951 to 2008. Iris graduated from Lynd (Minn.) Public Schools and St. Cloud State Teachers College. She taught first grade in St. Paul Park and Fairmont, Minn., for six years. She served on the Group Health (now Health Partners) board of directors for 16 years. Iris taught Sunday school, was a Boy Scout den mother and was active in many other community groups.

Ed was raised on a farm near Little Falls, Minn. Growing up, he was active in 4-H and Future Farmers of America and served as state president in 1939. He received a degree in agriculture from the University of Minnesota and was a member of FarmHouse fraternity.

He taught vocational agriculture in Fairmont, where he met Iris. They married in 1944. Ed was Rice County agricultural extension agent in Faribault, Minn., from 1946 to 1951, deputy commissioner of agriculture from 1951 to 1956 and executive director of the Minnesota Association of Cooperatives from 1956 to 1986.

When Ed retired in 1986, he and Iris divided their time between St. Paul and their lakeside farm in Glen, Minn.

Ed and Iris were members of St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ for 60 years.

They are survived by a daughter, Mary Jo Rajala (John); three sons, Bill, John (Jeanyne) and Robert (Faye); four grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. Iris is survived by her sisters, Mary Sweadner of Chicago, Ill., and Peggy Cobb of Atlanta, Ga.

A service was held July 26 at St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ.

Russell Solstad

Russell V. Solstad, 89, died peacefully June 18. He was a World War II veteran, longtime employee and retiree of Control Data Corp., and a lifetime member of Como Park Lutheran Church.

Crossword puzzle answers

Here are the answers to Dave Healy's crossword puzzle, which appeared on page 12 of our July issue.

J	A	V	A		T	A	N	S		S	E	E	K		
A	S	O	N		H	O	O	T		S	P	A	D	E	
L	I	T	T	L	E	L	I	E		P	O	R	G	Y	
A	D	E	L	E			R	E	R	A	I	S	E	S	
P	E	S	E	T	A	S		N	A	T	L				
				R	I	T	E	S		M	U	F	F	L	E
N	B	C		T	R	A	I	N		P	O	L	I	T	
A	L	A	R		A	L	T	O	S		R	A	N	T	
P	E	R	O	T		S	U	M	O	S		P	E	A	
S	U	B	W	A	Y		P	A	N	A	M				
				B	R	A	T		R	E	R	A	S	P	S
C	O	L	O	S	S	A	L			A	N	K	L	E	
A	B	R	A	U		E	A	T	I	N	G	O	U	T	
F	O	O	T	S		L	I	A	R		L	A	M	A	
E	E	N	S			S	N	O	B		E	L	S	E	

He was preceded in death by his wife, Irene; a grandson, Matthew Young; and two brothers, Waldo and Lester. He is survived by two sons, Thomas (Merri) and James (Norma); five grandchildren; a great-grandson; and a sister, Jeanette Firth.

A memorial service was held June 22 at Como Park Lutheran Church.

Robert Space

Robert W. Space, 81, died June 21. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Jane; his children, Susan McCullough, Bill (Michelle), David (Reenie) and Diane (Bob) Merriam; 10 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated June 27 at Holy Childhood Catholic Church in Como Park, with interment at Fort Snelling National Cemetery.

Ronald Urbanski

Ronald E. Urbanski, 72, of Como Park, died unexpectedly July 13.

He is survived by his wife, Jennifer; children, Melissa (Andrew Halaby) Urbanski, Bridget (Marc) Allard and Peter Urbanski; two grandchildren; and brother, Bill (Joan) Urbanski; and sister, Darlene Shearers.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated July 21 at Church of the Holy Childhood in Como Park.

Robert Vandenheuvel

Robert Louis Vandenheuvel, 78, died June 18, after battling brain cancer for nearly four years. He graduated from Murray High School 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 Jeannine, his wife of 58 years; his sons, R. Rik, D. Scott (Dawn) and J. Marty (Kim); five grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

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

AUGUST Events

1 WEDNESDAY

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

St. Anthony Park Book Club, "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks" by Rebecca Skloot, 6:30 p.m., St. Anthony Park library

3 FRIDAY

Movie night: "Rediscovering Mary Magdalene," 7 p.m., Spirit United Church. Free popcorn. Discussion follows movie. Donations accepted.

7 TUESDAY

Wendys Wiggle Jiggle & Jam, 10:30 a.m., St. Anthony Park library

National Night Out: 6 p.m. potluck dinner at Alden Square Gazebo, Irish band Dunquin performs at 7 p.m.

International and Domestic Adoption, 6-8:30 p.m., Children's Home Society & Family Services (CHSFS)

8 WEDNESDAY

Minnesota's Waiting Children, 6-8 p.m., CHSFS

14 TUESDAY

Artstart, 10:30 a.m., St. Anthony Park library

Adoptive Parents Group: for parents

of children who were in foster care. Open to any family, 6:30-8:30 p.m., CHSFS

16 THURSDAY

Park B4 Dark, north St. Anthony Park business district, 5-8 p.m.

Something New: Make your own earrings with Beverly Golberg and Sue Rohricht. Drop-spindle spinning demo with Judy Payne and needle felting demo with Sue Swanson, 5-9 p.m.

18 SATURDAY

Pioneer Sampler, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Gibbs Farm Museum

Teen Movie Madness: "Lord of the Rings Part II," noon-4 p.m., St. Anthony Park library

Teen Adoptees Group: Grades 9-12. Meet and socialize with other adopted teens, 10 a.m.-12:00 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

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, Seal High Rise, 825 Seal St., 12:30-1:30 p.m.

Wednesdays, SAP United Methodist Church, 2200 Hillside Ave., 10:30-11:30 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


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Business News

New life at Buck's site

By Roger Bergerson

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 Hermes 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 were committed to relocating in the area if at all possible. And by making improvements to the property, 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



Posing with a depiction of the new building are, left to right, Kevin Schroeder, Ryan Wagenman and Taylor Cox of Cox Insurance. Photo by Roger Bergerson

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.

Understandably, 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. One 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 to open 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 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 and 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 turkey 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.

More business news on 16

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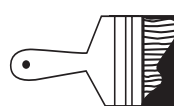
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Hermes Floral moves to new site

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 so 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 have 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, we'll be out in front 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.



Hermes Floral co-owners Alan DeGrand and Sandy Biedler
Photo by Roger Bergerson

Biedler said she thinks it's important that the store isn't moving far, so that there's continuity in customers' minds. "Our lease was expiring, so this opportunity came along at just the right time," she said.

Kettlebell studio latest addition in south St. Anthony

By Kristal Leebrick

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.



Fawn Friday
Photo by Genevieve Ross

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 does her work as a competitive lifter. Friday is a Minnesota state and national record holder in power and weight lifting.

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 curler, 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.

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