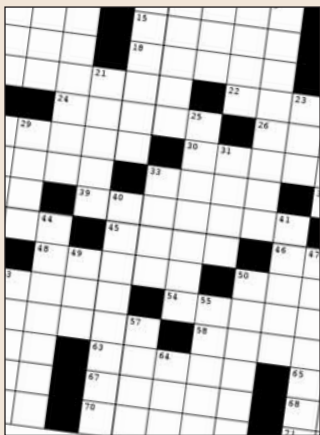




Family affairs

The third article in our Who Are We? series gets local reaction to the defeat of the marriage amendment.

Page 3



Crossword puzzle

We have just what you need for those lazy winter days ahead.

Page 9



Dynamic duo

Two area attorneys have devoted their practice to gender equality.

Page 11

St. Anthony Park
Falcon Heights
Lauderdale
Como Park

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January 2013

Local family's tree farm celebrates 60 years

U of M forestry professor was first to cultivate Christmas trees in state

By Kristal Leebrick

Once upon a time there was no such thing as a Christmas tree farm in the land of lakes—until University of Minnesota forestry professor Henry Hansen began planting spruces and pines on a tax-delinquent piece of land he'd purchased in Anoka County in 1952.

Sixty years later, the Hansen Tree Farm is credited as being the first commercial Christmas tree farm in the state. Hansen, a founding member of the Minnesota Christmas Tree Association, started the venture as a means to finance his three sons' college educations. Now, his two youngest—Mark and Dave, both residents of St. Anthony Park—are literally keeping the (camp)fires burning on that 40-acre plot that has become a holiday destination for many area families.

For the first 10 years after buying the land, Henry and his wife, Charlotte, father-in-law Harry Lindquist (yes, *the* Harry Lindquist, creator of the famous Christmas Sausage sold at Speedy Market, but that's another story . . .) and oldest son Trygg planted trees, transforming the farm field into a managed urban forest.

Trygg, who died two years ago, and his St. Anthony Park friends did much of the work during the summers of their junior and senior high school years, said Dave Hansen. "I think there were about a half-dozen guys who had it as their summer job."

The Hansen's began harvesting and selling the trees in the late '50s and early '60s, Mark said, supplying metro-area tree lots and allowing visitors to cut their own trees at the farm.

"We spent a lot of time out there," Mark said. "We didn't consider it work. My oldest brother, Trygg, he did a lot more. He was in high school and college when most of the planting was done and most of the shearing."

By the late 1960s, the initial

Tree farm to 8



Dave and Mark Hansen stand among their trees at the Hansen Tree Farm 60 years after the first seedlings were planted. Inset: A young Mark Hansen goofos off at the farm in 1959 as his brother Dave gets ready to cut down a Scotch pine. Photos courtesy of the Hansen Tree Farm

Minnesota Legislature 2013

Cohen and Hausman to head key state spending committees

By Anne Holzman

With the Democratic Farmer-Labor party back in power in both houses of the Minnesota Legislature as well as the governor's office, lawmakers from Park Bugle communities will hold some key finance positions as the Legislature convenes in January.

As of early December, Sen. Dick Cohen and Rep. Alice Hausman were already working with the governor's office and receiving requests from the University of

Minnesota, municipalities interested in transit projects and other entities throughout the state eager to claim a piece of the state's bonding and budget bills this term.

Cohen, whose District 64 crept north to take in part of St. Anthony Park after redistricting last session, will resume chairmanship of the Senate Finance Committee, which he chaired before the 2010 election gave two years of leadership to the Republican Party. The Finance Committee's job is to propose how the state will spend whatever revenue

it collects over the next two years.

Hausman (House District 66A, which extends north of Como Avenue through Falcon Heights and parts of Roseville), resumes her chairmanship of the House Capital Investments Committee, also having ceded the post to Republicans in 2010. Her committee's job is to propose a bonding bill that will approve using state credit to fund construction and other physical needs.

Rep. Erin Murphy (House Legislature to 6

Fingers crossed for cold weather

53rd annual Langford Park Winter Classic set for Jan. 10 to 13

Winter enthusiasts are keeping their fingers crossed that cold weather will stick around through the second week of January, when the 53rd annual Langford Park Winter Classic is set to begin.

The four-day event—most of which takes place on Langford Park's outdoor ice rinks—will kick off on Thursday, Jan. 10, with a Squirt hockey tournament that will include teams from Langford Park, Edgumbe Recreation Center, City of Lakes in Minneapolis and Prior Lake. A Mini-Mite scramble for first-graders and younger will conclude the Classic on Sunday, Jan. 13, with teams from Langford, Edgumbe, City of Lakes and Highland taking to the ice.

Hockey isn't the only game at this St. Anthony Park tradition. A St. Paul Parks and Recreation team basketball tourney will be going on inside the building and families can take part in skating contests throughout the weekend, as well as a treasure hunt and concessions.

The Winter Classic is sponsored by the Langford Park Booster Club, which supports youth sports in St. Anthony Park, and St. Paul Parks and Recreation.

C I T Y F I L E S

Como Park

The District 10 Como Community Council meets at 7 p.m. the third Tuesday of the month at the Como Streetcar Station, 1224 N. Lexington Parkway.

Districts 6 and 10 boundary change to be discussed Jan. 9

A neighborhood meeting concerning the boundaries of District 6 Planning Council and District 10 Como Community Council will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 9, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the banquet room at Black Bear Crossing, 1360 N. Lexington Parkway.

The councils received a request from Ward 5 Councilmember Amy Brendmoen to consider changing the service lines, bringing the area west of Dale Street currently being served by District 6 to the District 10 Community Council. In November 2012, the district councils also received a memo and a map from the city's Planning and Economic Development Department regarding the proposed change.

At the Nov. 18 District 10 Community Council meeting, the board of directors voted against the boundary changes. A letter was sent

to the city regarding District 10's position on the issue. The District 6 Planning Council has also voted to leave the boundary lines unchanged.

Newly elected at-large members

The District 10 Community Council elected two at-large board members at its Nov. 18 meeting, Dana Saeger and Pete Bolstad. Saeger is a new resident to the Como Park neighborhood. He works for the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs and has a background in public administration. Bolstad served as a sub-district 2 board member in 2009-11. He has been active in the community, serving as a coach at Northwest Como Recreation Center and an officer of the center's booster club. He is a vocational counselor with Hennepin County.

Falcon Heights

The Falcon Heights City Council meets the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at Falcon Heights City Hall, 2077 W. Larpenteur Ave.

In November, the winning poem of the first annual Falcon Heights

Sidewalk Poetry Contest was stamped into a sidewalk at the intersection of Hamline and California Avenues. The poem, by Louella Hirsch, is printed below:

Walking along,
Glancing down,
Eye the words:
Poetry in motion.

Lauderdale

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

Park and Rec guides available

Parks and Recreation program guides for Roseville, Falcon Heights and the University of Minnesota are available in the lobby of City Hall, 1891 Walnut St.

Senior exercise class is free

A free senior exercise class is held Thursdays, 2 to 3 p.m., at the City Gables Apartments Clubhouse, 1611 Pleasant St. The class is sponsored by St. Anthony Park Area Seniors. See Events on page 15 to find other senior exercise classes sponsored by SAPAS.

St. Anthony Park

The District 12 Community Council meets on the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at South St. Anthony Recreation Center (SSA), 890 Cromwell Ave. The district's Land Use Committee meets on the first Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at SSA. The Energy Resilience Group meets at 7 p.m. the third Thurs-

day of the month. Email erg@sapcc.org to find out the location each month. The Environment Committee meets at 7 p.m. the fourth Wednesday of the month at SSA.

Learn about Transition Town

Can St. Anthony Park become a Transition Town? The Community Council's Energy Resilience Group will start a series of community meetings and films in January to address that question. The first meeting will be held Thursday, Jan. 17, 7-8:30 p.m. at St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church, 2200 Hillside Ave. The film *In Transition 2.0* will be shown twice: on Saturday, Jan. 12, at 12:30 p.m. at the St. Anthony Park Library, 2245 Como Ave., and on Wednesday, Jan. 9, from 7 p.m. at Joy of the People, 890 Cromwell Ave.

Find out more about the series on page 7.

Represent your neighborhood

The District 12 Community Council is looking for community volunteers to participate in the next round of the City's Capital Improvement Budget funding process. Committees meet monthly and recommend to the City Council which projects should be funded. This process is intended to finance physical improvements of land and facilities owned by the city.

Email lauren@sapcc.org for more information or to sign up for

one of the committees.

In addition, the district is looking for one resident from south St. Anthony Park and three business owners or workers to join our board. Learn more at sapcc.org/board or email lauren@sapcc.org.

Donate your SAP photos

What images do you think represent St. Anthony Park? Send your photos (high resolution—at least 300 dpi in a .jpg, .tif or .eps format) to the Community Council to be added to a photo library and perhaps selected to help visually represent our community within the Raymond Avenue or Westgate light-rail stations. Photos will become the property of the St. Anthony Park District Council but any use will include photo credit for the photographer. Email your photos to lauren@sapcc.org.

Organize a local food event

The Midway Local Food Resource Hub has found that most of its members live in the Hamline Midway neighborhood. Be a local food hero and recruit your St. Anthony Park neighbors to the Hub by helping organize a community potluck or otherwise promoting the Hub in the St. Anthony Park neighborhood.

Email Faith Krogstad at faith@hamlinemidway.org if you are interested.

Luther Seminary names Foss as interim president

The Luther Seminary Board of Directors has named Richard J. Foss as interim president of the seminary. Foss will step in for Richard Bliese, who resigned in early December. Bliese had been president at the seminary since 2005.

Foss has been at Luther Seminary since 2008, when he became director of contextual learning. He previously served as bishop for the Eastern North Dakota Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), a position he held since 1992.

Foss will assume the responsibilities of interim president on Jan. 1.

One of Foss' top priorities will be to work with Dr. Bill Frame, interim CFO, and others to resolve the short-term fiscal issues and a plan to enhance the seminary's financial strength and viability.

St. Anthony Park Progressive Dinner will be held Feb. 23

The 27th annual St. Anthony Park Progressive Dinner will be held Saturday, Feb. 23. The fun, food and neighborliness will begin with appetizers at 5:30 p.m. at the St. Anthony Park Methodist Church at Como and Hillside. Then diners fan out across the neighborhood to partake in a series of salad, dinner and dessert courses hosted at the homes of Progressive Dinner participants.


It's an amazing opportunity to meet your neighbors, enjoy a special meal and have great conversations.

Look for more information on the event and downloadable registration forms at <http://sapcc.org/dinner>. On the form, you can select the course you are willing to host. You can also get more information by contacting Jane Leonard at minntwin@comcast.net or 651-303-5263.

After submitting a registration form, one of the coordinating committee members will contact you on or before Feb. 21 to confirm the course and the number of people you will be hosting. Participants can host up to 8 people in their homes for one of the courses (salad, dinner or dessert) or choose to bring appetizers for that number of people to share at the church during the welcome and appetizer course.

The schedule for the evening begins with appetizers at 5:30 p.m., salad and bread at host homes at 6:30 p.m., main course at 7:30 and dessert from 8:45 to 9:45 p.m.

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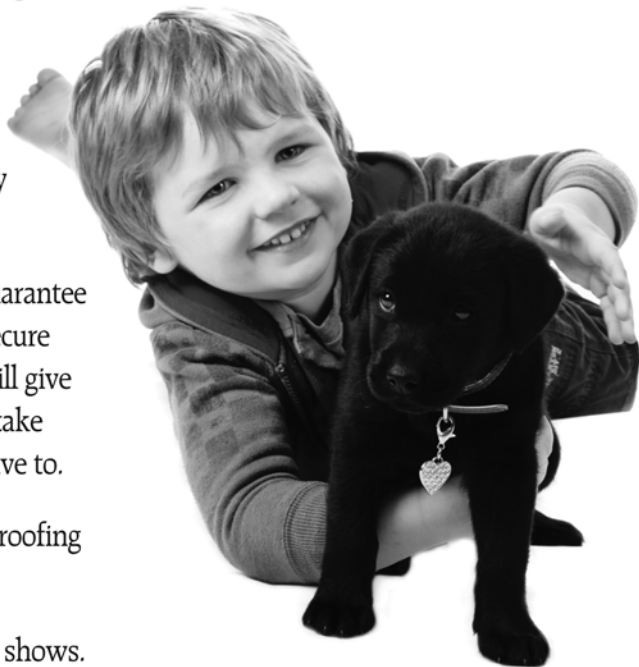
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Marriage amendment reprise

The 2010 U.S. Census reported that only 2 or 3 percent of the local population are in same-sex relationships, yet more than two-thirds of area voters said no to the November ballot question limiting marriage to heterosexual couples

This is the third in a series of occasional articles by Judy Woodward that look at different aspects of the Bugle's communities as revealed by the findings of the 2010 U. S. Census.



first year that the U.S. Census included a question that allowed same-sex couples to identify themselves as such. The Census question is probably a case of bureaucracy catching up with reality, since gay couples have lived in the community for

many years. Like more than a dozen other communities statewide, both St. Paul and Falcon Heights already maintain domestic partnership registries, which give gay (and straight) couples a symbolic means to declare their relationship publicly.

Local gay families differ on the

Marriage amendment to 14

By Judy Woodward

In this area, the dominant color of the last election was orange. More common and more prominent than signs for any candidate—including the presidential contenders—the bright orange lawn signs advising passers-by to Vote No on the Marriage Amendment became the visual signature of the election.

Election results bore out the lack of enthusiasm for the amendment that would have enshrined traditional heterosexual marriage in the Minnesota State Constitution. About 47 percent of Minnesotans statewide voted to approve the amendment, but in St. Paul, Falcon Heights and Lauderdale, more than two-thirds of voters opposed the measure. In Legislative District 64A, the no vote was a remarkable 82 percent, outpolling every politician from Barack Obama down to State Rep. Erin Murphy.

Quite a display for an area that, according to the 2010 Census results, contains no more than 2 or 3 percent of households that define themselves as same-sex partnerships.

No one knows how many gay couples and families have lived in the area in the past, since 2010 was the



Sara Ford (left) and Kim Klose with their sons, Jeremy and Cullen. Photo by Lori Hamilton

Como Park Ski Center is open

The Como Park Ski Center's regular season hours will begin Wednesday, Dec. 26, with extended holiday hours from Dec. 26 to Jan. 2. Registration for ski and snowboard lessons are being accepted.

Friday Family Night Ski sessions will begin Dec. 28 and run through Feb. 15. Discounted skiing for families will be offered every Friday from 5 to 10 p.m. Fees include downhill ski, cross-country ski or snowboard equipment and a rope-tow ticket. The fee for families (up to five members) is \$50. Additional family members cost \$5 each. Individuals pay \$10.

Regular Como Park Ski Chalet Hours are Saturdays, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sundays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 3 to 9 p.m.; and Fridays, 5 to 10 p.m. The Ski Center is closed on Mondays and Thursdays.

For more information call the chalet at 651-488-9673, or go online to www.stpaul.gov/parks.

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E D I T O R I A L

The end

For those of you who find the Dec. 21 close of the Mayan calendar a bit disconcerting, remember that doomsdays come and go. We offer this Robert Frost poem for your end-of-the-world musings. It appeared in the December 1920 issue of *Harper's Magazine*. And in case time doesn't end this December, we wish you all a happy new year.

Fire and Ice

Some say the world will end in fire,
Some say in ice.
From what I've tasted of desire
I hold with those who favor fire.
But if it had to perish twice,
I think I know enough of hate
To say that for destruction ice
Is also great
And would suffice.

—*Robert Frost*

C O M M E N T A R Y

The Bugle welcomes letters to the editor and commentaries from our readers. We reserve the right to edit for grammar and clarity. Send your views to editor@parkbugle.org or P.O. Box 8126, St. Paul, MN 55108.

The mysterious who

By Jack Neely

It was going to be one of the most important events in the young lives of Lucy, age 7, and her brother, Daniel, age 4: the marriage of their father, Sean, to Andrea, a woman they had come to appreciate as a friend, and then love as their stepmother-to-be.

Sean and Andrea had met online and soon that line would bind them all. They were to be officially wrapped together at an outdoor wedding on a July afternoon at Gibbs Museum.

But this day was also special as Lucy and Daniel had been told that some very special and important people were coming to visit, so important that it was a surprise. It would be necessary to make a good presentation, so the children pitched in with little prompting, cleaning the whole house.

They cleaned their rooms as never before. Stuffed animals were vacuumed, furniture dusted, wastebaskets emptied and beds made

tight. They washed all the nose smudges planted by the dogs from the windows, doors, TV and oven door. And then they swept the steps and walk to greet these most important visitors.

Wayne and Ann, Andrea's parents, anticipated their first grandchildren with great joy. Family gatherings for holidays, birthday parties, picnics and art projects now would be brightened with two delightful and energetic children.

The day of mystery was at hand, and Lucy and Daniel had long given up trying to pry information from the adults. That was OK, for very important people were about to arrive at their home. This was going to be better than a surprise birthday party, or maybe even Christmas.

When the visitors arrived, the couple exited the car at the curb and Lucy and Daniel ran to greet them. Then, they came to a sudden stop not far from their guests.

Daniel's shoulders drooped as he looked up at his sister. Lucy's excitement dimmed as she looked

down and said, trying not to show her great disappointment, "Oh, it's you. We thought the Obamas were coming."

There stood Anne and Wayne with a fun art project for the children, a macaroni and cheese casserole, vanilla and chocolate shakes, and a Dairy Queen ice cream cake with "Lucy and Daniel UR Special" decorated in purple.

President and Mrs. Obama were forgiven shortly thereafter, and as the sun set that July day, Lucy and Daniel ate that special cake. Anne and Wayne and talked of what it would be like to live as one. And so they are.

Jack Neely is a St. Anthony Park resident who likes to write about life in the land of the retired.

Love and the Park Bugle

Join the Park Bugle the week before Valentine's Day to explore love at Micawber's Books.

"Love and Love of the Written Word," the Park Bugle's second annual fundraising event, will be held Thursday, Feb. 7, from 7 to 9 p.m., at our local bookstore, 2258 Como Ave. The night will feature food and wine donated by the Colossal Café and the Little Wine Shoppe and Micawber's co-owner Hans Weyandt, who will talk about 25 recent books that fall into the (broad) category of "Love" and "Love of the Written Word."

Join us for this wonderful, warm winter event. Space is limited to 50 people, so please reserve your spot early by calling 651-646-5369 or email editor@parkbugle.org. Give us your name, email address and phone number and how many guests you plan to bring. Donations of \$35 or more at the door will be gratefully accepted.

Park Bugle

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The news and advertising deadline for the next issue is Jan. 16.

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.

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Thank you for supporting the Park Bugle

Thanks to the following Park Bugle readers who have contributed to the Bugle's 2012-13 fund drive. This list reflects those who gave through Dec. 6. We'll publish more donors in the next issue. The Bugle relies on tax-deductible donations to help defray the newspaper's annual operating costs. Our goal this year is to raise \$35,000.

If you haven't contributed to the fund drive, there's still time. You can donate online at www.parkbugle.org. Click the green DONATE NOW button at the top of the right-hand column. Or send a check to Park Bugle, P.O. Box 8126, St. Paul, MN 55108.

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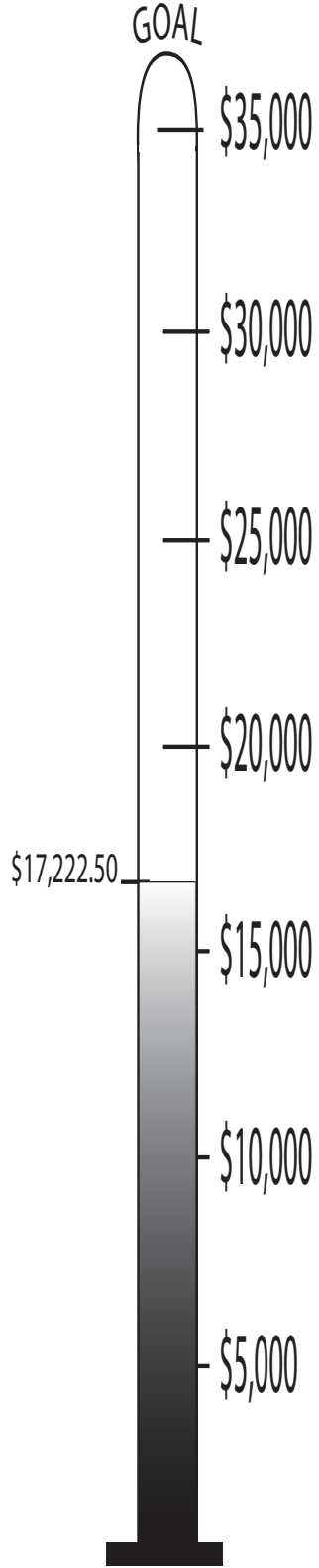
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Legislature from 1

District 64A) was selected as House majority leader, the second in command in that chamber. She, too, will figure prominently in money matters, on the revenue side as well as on spending. She will be a key player in negotiating within and between houses and with Gov. Mark Dayton's staff.

Sen. John Marty, whose district now takes in much of St. Anthony Park, will chair the Senate Environment Committee.

District 66B Rep. John Lesch, who serves the Como Park area, will chair the House Civil Law Committee.

Cohen noted that in the Senate, many Democrats taking formerly Republican seats are freshmen, an unusual situation for his party. "We have a pretty junior caucus in the Senate for the first time in decades," Cohen said.

Both Cohen and Hausman said the DFL sweep at the Capitol gives them hope that conflict will be minimized and processes can be streamlined this year.

Hausman sees this as an opportunity to launch a new model for state government. Minnesotans have been asking for years why budget fights always seem to come down to the last day of the session or even require extra days, she said.

In her capacity as Capital Investments chair, she has a plan to move things along. "The way I'm going to test whether we are a different body this year," she said, "is to suggest we pass the bonding bill earlier."

"The budget will be a huge challenge this year," Hausman said, because there's talk about major structural shifts involving tax proposals to respond to ongoing

deficits. "But what I would like to argue is, 'Don't hold everything as hostage to that.'"

Both Hausman and Cohen expressed hope that the conference process toward the end of each major bill will be smoother with all-DFL



State Rep. Alice Hausman

leadership.

"I'm hoping this year we'll have very simple conference committees and they won't be protracted," Cohen said.

Hausman said she would spend December drafting a bill as a starting point for her committee. She is expecting to see new support for transit in 2013 from businesses around the state. "For a long time, this was an uphill battle, to build public mass transit," she said. "Suddenly the business community has discovered this in a major way." Business leaders have been traveling to other cities the size of the Twin Cities metro area and getting ideas, Hausmann said.

She's looking to the various chambers of commerce to help lead the charge. "They are ready, as never before, to help with more robust transit in the bonding bill," she said.

Hausman had hoped to see bonding requests from the University of Minnesota for a new Bell Museum and an American Indian resource center at the Duluth Campus.

The U has, in past years, repeatedly requested bond money to build a new home for the Bell Museum at the southwest corner of Larpenteur and Cleveland avenues, but did not put the museum or the Duluth resource center in its request this year.

"Their reason given was that they had advanced these several times and were not successful," Hausman said. "I pointed out that it was due to a Republican governor who vetoed it or a Republican chair who did not include it [in the bonding bill]. We now have other people in place. I was very clear that I was not pleased and certainly have not given up on either. I strongly believe both projects are the right thing to do for this state."

Hausman met with the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MNSCU) staff in late November to receive their requests. "The major portion of the bonding bill is always higher education," Hausman said.

Another major area for bonding funds, she said, is environmental infrastructure, including parks and trails.

"The big issue for me is wetland restoration," she said. "As we deal with flooding, the old way to do it was flood mitigation, dikes and so on. Over time, that doesn't work."

She'll try to pump more money this year into Reinvest in Minnesota, an ongoing fund that draws a federal match and can be used for wetlands restoration. "One of the years I was writing the bill, we captured more money for restoring wetlands than any other state," she said.

When the Legislature convenes on Jan. 8, Hausman's committee will start on the House bonding bill, while Cohen's Senate committee will dig right into the budget.

Cohen's not inclined to wait for the February quarterly state finance forecast, he said. He was rolling up his sleeves as the November numbers came in. "I'll be very surprised if there's a big difference" in the February forecast, Cohen said.

Budget requests this year will likely include "a major workforce development effort" from MNSCU, Cohen said. He also expects to take a close look at local government aid (LGA), a tool to balance the means and resources of municipalities around the state, which has been cut dramatically in recent years.

While his committee does not directly deal with taxes, it may look for ways to affect the balance of revenue, he said. "Property taxes have increased a substantial amount, and folks in our area have borne the brunt of that."

He expects significant changes in the Minnesota budget to come out of the 2013 session. "The governor's made it clear: we're done borrowing money," Cohen said, noting the late school payments and other mechanisms used to balance the budget in previous sessions. "We're going to try to put together a structurally balanced budget."

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Transition Town

District 12 to explore becoming part of global movement that encourages energy independence and greater community resilience

By Michael Russelle

The impacts of global climate change are stunning. They fill the news. According to climatologist and meteorologist Mark Seeley, "For those who doubt or wish to dismiss the evidence that climate is changing, please consider that Minnesota data (measurements in our own backyards) indicate it is happening and already resulting in consequences. As responsible citizens, it is clearly poor judgment to ignore this."

In response, the St. Anthony Park Community Council is planning to explore with District 12 residents and businesses whether the district should become part of the global Transition Town movement. The council will host a series of meetings, films and speakers in the new year to investigate ways to decrease our energy use, CO2 emissions and broader environmental footprints.

The first meeting of the series, on Thursday, Jan. 17, will focus on coalescing the work of groups and individuals already engaging in sustainability and community-building efforts. The meeting will be held at St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church, 2200 Hillside Ave., from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Subsequent meetings are being planned and the schedule will be published in upcoming issues of the Bugle.

Among the questions the council will ask are: What does it

mean to "live the good life" when the human footprint on the environment is so damaging? And how can we make big and small improvements in the way we live, while preserving and enhancing the character and beauty of our neighborhoods?

The community has taken some action toward decreasing our energy use. About 250 homes in the district have had Home Energy Audits recently, and we see evidence of change with the growing popularity of bicycles, gardening, solar hot water and electrical systems, improved home insulation and upgraded windows.

Businesses and organizations have taken part too.

"Being thoughtful about how we can be better stewards of scarce resources just makes good sense for all of us," said Steve Wellington, St. Anthony Park resident and president of Wellington Management Inc., which owns and manages 90 commercial properties in the Twin Cities.

"We certainly know the value of energy-efficient lighting, the savings we can achieve from modern boilers, and the virtues of district heating and cooling systems."

Wellington has installed solar panels on three of its nearby properties and is using a geothermal heating-and-cooling system at a property in Minneapolis.

Tim Wulling, a member of the council's Environment Committee, said technology alone won't solve our

climate-change issues. "We need to change some of the ways we live so that we curtail our use of fossil fuels. This will take a cooperative effort, and we'll find it makes a stronger and more resilient community."

State Rep. Alice Hausman agreed: "Working together as a community provides the opportunity to encourage one another to do more," she said. "We know what we want for our future. We even know how to get there, but change isn't easy. Transition Town provides a framework."

The Transition Town movement began in the United Kingdom in response to the threats of "peak oil" (the point in time when the maximum rate of petroleum extraction is reached and the rate of oil production begins to rapidly decline), global climate change and a fragile economy. The movement has spread to more than 400 communities in 34 countries.

The key idea is that a neighborhood, town or city develops a comprehensive vision of a more sustainable future and then develops

a roadmap for realizing the vision. Inherent in the planning is that change requires significantly lower use of limited and polluting energy sources and increased local economic stability and vitality.

Is the community ready to take larger steps? After being hit by Hurricane Sandy in late October, communities with their own utilities bounced back more quickly than areas dependent on the large energy utilities.

More comprehensive planning could provide greater resilience to catastrophic events and enhance broader development. A notable example of such a planning document was produced for the city of Bloomington, Ind. You can find it at bloomington.in.gov/peakoil.

The scope of the activity needed to become a more resilient community was made clear by Jon Commers, a Metropolitan Council member representing St. Paul west of 35E: "Addressing climate change demands we make changes broader

than we're used to," he said. "Think of all the interrelated priorities we need to pursue: deep cuts in carbon emissions, strong local business, a range of housing choices, a more complete transit network, adjustment to an older community, to name a few."

The community council's Green on the Screen group will host two showings of the movie *In Transition 2.0* in January. The movie, which showcases how Transition Towns around the world have begun realizing their visions, will be shown on Wednesday, Jan. 9, at 7 p.m. at South St. Anthony Recreation Center (now Joy of the People), 890 Cromwell Ave., and on Saturday, Jan. 12, at 12:30 p.m. at the St. Anthony Park library, 2245 Como Ave.

Find out more about the Transition Town movement at www.transitionnetwork.org.

Michael Russelle is a member of the District 12 Energy Resilience Group and Environment Committee.

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Tree farm from 1

trees had become overgrown and the Hansen boys had entered their “rebellious teen and independent adult” years and began to lose interest, Dave said.

“The farm basically went to seed and became overgrown,” he said. It was after a trip to Europe in 1980, where Dave saw the well-managed European forests, that he began to “feel guilty of how we were neglecting ours.”

The next spring, Dave, Mark and Henry began plans to renew the farm.

“It took about 20 years to bring it to what we envisioned and it has become even better since then,” Dave said.

Now, the farm is a year-round hobby, said Mark, who keeps a quarter-time job with the U.S. Forest Service on the U of M’s St. Paul campus after retiring two years ago. Dave, a photographer with the university’s Extension Service, and Mark spend two or three spring weekends planting trees each year. In the summer, “it’s weed control and shearing and shaping the trees and maintaining the irrigation system,” Mark said.

Come fall, they thin the trees, continue weed control and work to maintain the buildings on the site, which include a barn that’s used as a gift gallery and warming house. Once the sale season starts, they are out there every weekend “sun up to sun down—or a little longer,” Mark said.

Mark’s three sons—Kip, Per and Trygve—and Dave’s two children—Britta and Kell—grew up working on the farm. And so have many neighborhood kids.

“For most of them, it was their first job,” Dave said. Many returning college students ask to work over Thanksgiving weekend and when they return home for winter break. “They enjoy the work, reuniting with their co-workers and just being out there,” he said.

The Hansen Tree Farm celebrated its 60th anniversary this year by introducing horse-drawn sleigh rides the first three weekends of the season. You can still visit the farm if you get there by Saturday, Dec. 22.

To find out more, go to hansentreefarm.com.



Harry Lindquist floated a \$1,000 loan to his son-in-law Henry Hansen to purchase the 40-acre cornfield that Henry turned into the first commercial Christmas tree farm in Minnesota. Harry is shown here in 1975 helping a customer load a large red pine.

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Henry Hansen, who died in 2005, is credited with starting the first commercial Christmas tree farm in Minnesota.

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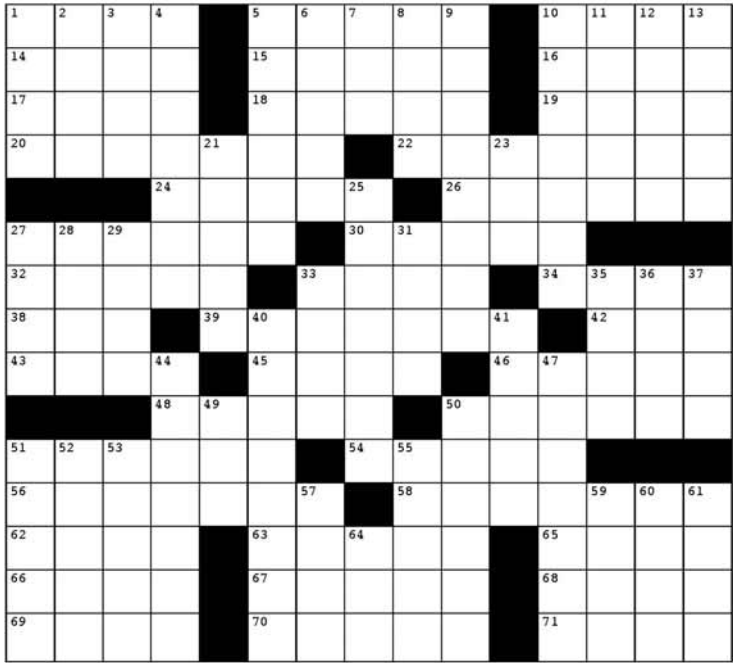



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Crossword puzzle

By Dave Healy

We'll print the answers to the puzzle in the next issue of the Park Bugle. If you can't wait, you can find them online at www.parkbugle.org



ACROSS

- 1 New Testament book
- *5 Barry, Robin, and Maurice
- 10 Hitler's deputy
- 14 Plunder
- 15 Negative ion
- 16 Sheltered ship side
- 17 Turkish title
- 18 Little Eva's creator
- 19 Shift
- 20 "Chéri" and "Gigi" author
- 22 Spilled
- 24 British noblemen
- 26 Cough drop brand since 1879
- 27 Exactly
- 30 Banal
- 32 ____ by any other name
- 33 ____ Page of MN Supreme Court
- 34 Apprehends
- 38 "Gone with the Wind" studio
- 39 Reveal
- 42 Contend
- 43 ____ and ye shall find
- 45 Pepsi rival
- 46 23rd state admitted to the Union
- 48 2011 hurricane
- 50 Building support
- 51 Robert Boyle, for one
- 54 ____ Ste. Marie
- 56 Blot on the landscape
- *58 Without a Fundy?
- 62 Gillette brand since 1977
- 63 Organic compound
- 65 Foil for a foil
- 66 Sea-going she
- 67 Comparably aged
- 68 parkbugle.com, for one
- 69 Sasquatch shoe size
- 70 Broods
- 71 CT, for one

DOWN

- 1 "Beetlejuice" Baldwin
- *2 Italian city and lake
- 3 Trouble's companion
- 4 Theme for this puzzle
- 5 Pub intro
- 6 Chip maker
- 7 Short life?
- 8 Pays homage
- *9 Famous fort
- *10 Massachusetts town or Baltimore neighborhood
- 11 Skip the ceremony?
- 12 Number for brides or brothers
- 13 Plants
- 21 Shocked
- 23 Diamond call
- 25 Popular parish or hospital name
- 27 Batter's banes
- 28 Drive
- 29 Several
- 31 Congestion sound
- 33 ____ calling
- 35 Eager
- 36 Climbing plant
- 37 Prophet
- 40 What we all scream for
- 41 Postess with the mostest?
- 44 Kardashian's muscle?
- 47 Innocent
- 49 Most visited city in southern hemisphere
- 50 Watches carefully
- 51 Desist
- *52 Old English for "haven"
- 53 Uncanny
- 55 Belgian village
- 57 Place to fill it up in 54 Across
- 59 Beowulf, for one
- 60 Bristle
- 61 Spotted
- 64 Spinner



The Birdman of Lauderdale

by Clay Christensen

House finch had a little human help in its eastern expansion

It was their singing that got them into trouble. Well, not really into trouble, but their beautiful song led some people to start keeping them as pets, and that led to the species spreading across the eastern United States.

I'm talking about the house finch whose song is a long, warbled collection of short notes that lasts about three seconds and often ends with an upward or downward slur.

House finches were native to the western United States and Mexico, where they thrived in hot, dry habitats and in the lower elevation of mountain ranges. In the 1930s, despite federal laws prohibiting the capture and sale of migratory birds, some house finches were captured, caged and brought east, where they were sold in pet stores as "Hollywood finches."

In 1939, as law enforcement began to investigate pet stores selling these finches on Long Island, N.Y., one store owner opened the cage doors and set 20 house finches free.

What's a Western bird supposed to do in New York City? Flourish, that's what. Within a few years, house finches were discovered nesting in the New York City area. From there, they have gradually spread west, north and south and now their range covers nearly the entire United States. They've done well since their unceremonious release on Long Island.

Despite their proven adaptive skills, house finches suffered a setback in their territorial expansion when they began to contract mycoplasmal conjunctivitis in the winter of 1993-94. The disease is quite serious, a respiratory infection that can kill the bird. Even a mild case results in swollen, crusty eyes that can impede a finch's ability to find food and escape predators.

The epidemic seems to have leveled out now, with only about 5 to 10 percent of the Eastern population affected.

Back in December 1990, a house finch was found at a bird feeder in St. Paul's Highland Park neighborhood. It was such a remarkable sighting that it was posted on the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union's website and birders were calling each other to make sure they had heard the news.

I was participating in St. Paul Audubon's Christmas Bird Count on that day and we made a slow drive through the alley behind that house to get a glimpse of this (at the time) rare bird. We found it.

My notes from the day indicate it was -6°F with a -51°F wind chill.

The house finch is about the size of the ubiquitous English house sparrow at 6 inches long. The longish tail has a shallow notch, shallower than most other finches.

The male has a reddish forehead and chest with distinct brown streaking along the sides and the stomach. It also shows a reddish rump when it flies off. The rest of the bird is brown.

The female is very plain. There is no red on the head or chest. It's gray-brown overall. Even the streaking looks somewhat blurred.

I really began to admire house finches when I learned that citizen science surveys had provided evidence that the bird was competing for nest sites with the invasive house sparrow—and winning.

I usually see house finches in pairs at my feeders. They stay matched up year round, not just in the breeding season. And they seem to be good parents, responsive to their begging nestlings and fledglings and raising multiple broods in most summers.

The "house" part of their name comes from the fact that they are found around houses, where they often use hanging plants or left-over Christmas wreaths as nest sites.

House finches are primarily vegetarians, eating and feeding their young seeds, buds, flowers, berries

and leaves. This is rather uncommon in the bird world, with most birds feeding insects and caterpillars to their youngsters to give them the protein that encourages rapid growth and development.

How the male house finch gets its red coloring is an interesting story. No species of bird can innately create a red color in its feathers. It comes from carotene, a pigment found in some fruits and plants.

Carotene can also produce yellow coloration, so the male can have more of an orange or yellow coloring, depending on the food choices available to it.

The depth of the color of the male indicates his ability to find such rich food sources. It's thought that female house finches prefer stronger colored males since it implies that he would be a good provider for her nestlings.

To learn more about house finches, and to hear a sample of their song, go to www.allaboutbirds.org and search for "house finch." You'll find a "sound" tab on the house finch page.

And it's a good bet you'll be hearing them sing again this spring and summer.

Clay Christensen's column appears every other month in the Park Bugle.

St. Paul Audubon presents Sharon Stiteler Jan. 10

Bird blogger and storyteller Sharon Stiteler will present "Today's 'Birding' Office," on Thursday, Jan. 10, at 7 p.m. at Fairview Community Center, 1910 W. County Road B, Roseville. Stiteler's goal is to get paid to go bird watching. Stiteler writes the popular birding blog Birdchick (www.birdchick.com). The event is free and open to the public.

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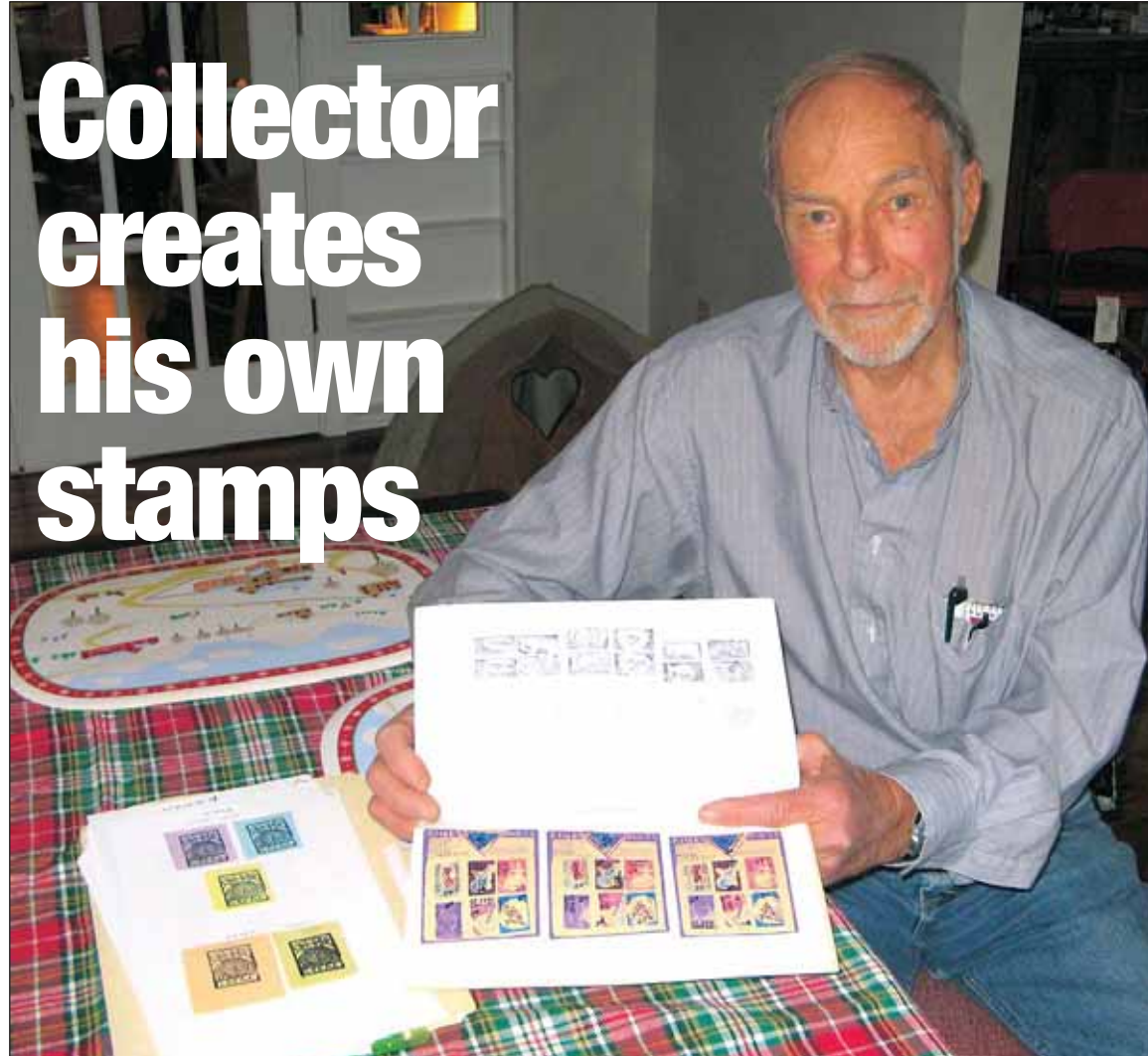
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Tom Betz with some of his local stamps. Photo by Roger Bergerson

By Roger Bergerson

He didn't know it at the time, but a strike by the U.S. Postal Service got Tom Betz started on a hobby that would bring him enjoyment for the next 40 years.

The Falcon Heights resident is a creator and collector of "local stamps," an offshoot of philately that he and a few hundred other enthusiasts pursue worldwide.

Local stamps can relate to the actual delivery of mail and have a face value; however, Betz and fellow members of the Local Post Collectors Society produce and issue stamps that are more like collectible labels. A monetary amount may be shown, but its only function is as a design element.

"In 1970, I was working for a company in downtown St. Paul when postal workers went on strike," Betz recalls. "Our employer assigned several of us to hand-deliver company mail in the downtown loop district."

As a lark, Betz designed a few of his own stamps to adorn the envelopes, not knowing that he was participating in a tradition that dated back to the beginning of the republic.

He gradually learned that there were other people involved in the activity and was delighted to hear from a person who had acquired one of his stamped envelopes at a sale in another state.

Some local stamps resemble



conventional postage, but Betz' are closer to folk art. He starts with ink drawings and then hand carves individual stamp elements, as one would do with a woodcut. His most complex designs have taken, literally, thousands of impressions to produce.

When a member of the Local Post Collectors Society has a stamp that he or she wants to "issue," an announcement is made in the society's newsletter. Those interested will send the issuer a self-addressed, stamped envelope. The issuer affixes the new stamp to the envelope and sends it back, creating a collectible in the process.

In Betz' case, he also cancels the stamp, using his postmaster-approved personal cancellation mark.

A variety of organizations—churches, even a group of inmates in a Massachusetts prison—have used local stamps to raise funds for good causes. One example: creating special stamps to put on Christmas cards.

"I putzed around a little with conventional stamp collecting," says Betz, "but I find this a lot more satisfying. The personal involvement is what I like the best and the interchange with other collectors is quite gratifying."

Want to know how to get started in local stamp collecting? Go to www.localcollectorspost.org.



Tom Betz has his own postmaster-approved personal cancellation mark.

Gender Justice

Dynamic duo fights discrimination

Lisa Stratton, Jill Gaulding and their nonprofit, Gender Justice, were named Changemakers in December by the Minnesota Women's Press.

By Anne Hamre

You never know where a Google search might lead. Several years ago, attorney Jill Gaulding moved to the Twin Cities from Iowa. Seeking her niche, she plugged some words into the search engine.

"Lisa [Stratton] popped up immediately," said Gaulding. "I thought, 'I have so much in common with this person; I need to meet her.'"

Gaulding doesn't recall the exact search words, but says, "They were probably something like 'discrimination,' 'employment' and 'gender.'"

A few years later, Gender Justice was born. Stratton, a resident of St. Anthony Park, and Gaulding co-founded the nonprofit in 2010 with a mission to address the causes and consequences of gender inequality through impact litigation, policy work, and public education and training.

Upon finishing law school nearly 20 years ago, Stratton dreamed of starting something like Gender Justice. After exploring the concept, she decided to gain litigation experience first—and hasn't regretted it. Her clients included blue-collar women subjected to hostile workplaces.



Lisa Stratton (left) and Jill Gaulding, founders of the nonprofit Gender Justice. Photo by Kristal Leebick

"Part of what it took was having the right partner," said Stratton of the gap between the Gender Justice dream and its fruition. "I'm not a lone wolf—I like to collaborate."

Gaulding's background, meanwhile, combines law and cognitive science—crucial expertise in understanding and addressing bias and discrimination.

When choosing cases, Gender Justice prioritizes clients who traditionally have had difficulty accessing justice, for example, low-

income or immigrant workers. Beyond that, they seek cases that not only serve the individual plaintiff but that illuminate a broader problem and bring systemic changes.

One such case that was recently settled involved the alleged workplace rape of Leticia, an undocumented immigrant employed by a national housekeeping services company as a housekeeper at Ridgedale Center in Minnetonka.

Gender Justice to 14

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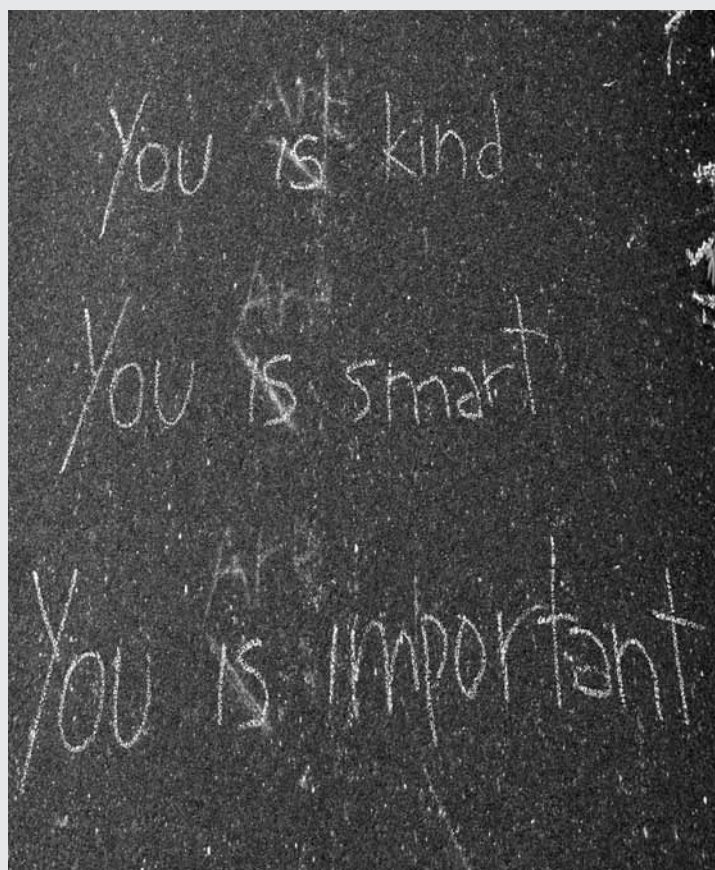


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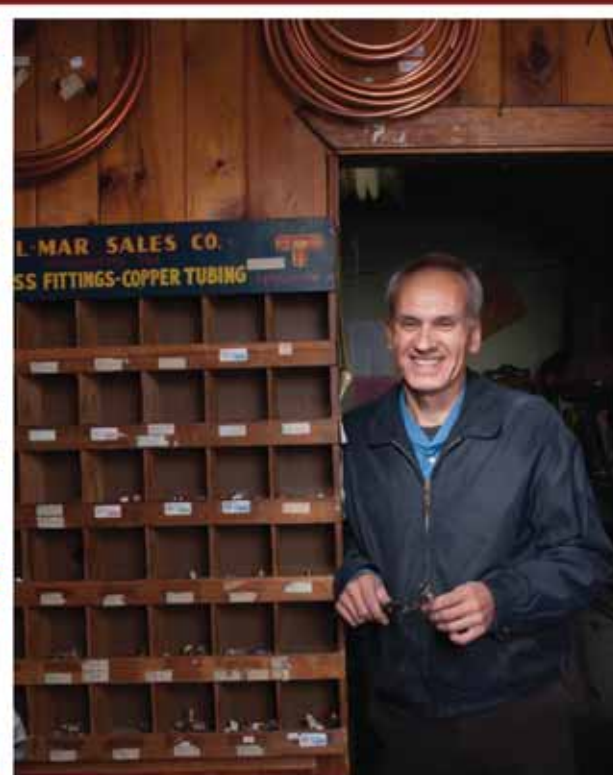
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Grammar vs. sentiment

Somebody's sidewalk sentiment was edited. This photo by Jerry Sedgewick was taken on a nearby bike trail. The photo is part of the Photos for Thought series by Sedgewick, a commercial photographer who lives in St. Anthony Park. The series finds contrasts to make social commentary. Sedgewick's work is on display at St. Paul's Claddagh Coffee, 459 W. Seventh St., through December.



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ON THE GREEN LINE

L I V E S L I V E D

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

Elsie Bauer

Elsie Helen Bauer, 92, former longtime St. Anthony Park resident, died peacefully at her home in Roseville on Nov. 28.

Elsie was born Feb. 15, 1920, in Wakefield, Mich. She was the daughter of Finnish immigrants who came as teenagers to the United States. Following high school, Elsie went to Chicago and earned a nursing degree.

She married Edwin John Bauer in 1943. Ed and Elsie moved to St. Paul and lived for 42 years on Chelmsford Street in St. Anthony Park.

Elsie was a talented seamstress and tailor, loved languages, music, fashion and design. She was active in the community and in church life.

She volunteered for KTCA, served as a leader in the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, tutored at St. Anthony Park Elementary School, taught Sunday school and was a member of the Quilters at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church. Elsie also worked as a home-care nurse for close neighbors.

Ed and Elsie moved to a townhome in Roseville in 1996. After Ed's death in 2004, Elsie remained active with gardening, traveling, quilting and staying involved with her family.

She is survived by her children, John, Mark (Chiya), Leslie (Leland) Whitney, Paul (Catherine Brandel) and Laurie Bauer; five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Her funeral service was held

Dec. 3 at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, with interment at Roselawn Cemetery.

Carol Brewster

Carol A. Brewster, 72, died recently. She is survived by her husband, Bob; daughter, Tracy; sons, Bobby and Brett. She was a sister, aunt, and grandmother. A memorial service was held Nov. 30 at the Rosetown American Legion in Roseville, with burial at Hillside Cemetery

Maureen Crowley

Maureen "Reenie" Crowley, 64, of Hopkins, died Nov. 27. She was a pediatric oncology nurse at the University of Minnesota Medical Center.

She was preceded in death by her brother David C. Crowley. She is survived by siblings Forest Crowley Jr. (Mitzi), Dolores Appel, John Crowley (Lynn), Kathy Bakke (Larry) and Susan Ryan (Jim).

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Dec. 1 at the Church of St. Cecelia in St. Anthony Park.

Kaia Emily Halvorson

Kaia Emily Halvorson, 98, formerly of St. Anthony Park, died Nov. 17. She was born in Bricelyn, Minn. She attended grade school there and graduated from high school in Blue Earth, Minn. She attended Augustana College in Sioux Falls, S.D., graduating with a degree in teaching.

Her first teaching job was at Howard High School in Howard, S.D., and then at Sioux Falls High School in Sioux Falls, 1936-40. She met her husband, Arndt Halvorson, at Augustana College, and they married in 1940, after Arndt graduated from Luther Seminary in St. Paul.

Arndt and Emily served Lutheran parishes in Casper, Wyo.; West Hempstead, N.Y.; Forest City, Iowa; Minneapolis; and Prescott, Ariz. In 1958, they moved to St. Paul, where Emily worked at Lutheran Nurses Guild, 1962-65, and as a librarian at Mounds Midway School of Nursing and Midway Hospital, 1966-79.

Emily was preceded in death by her husband; a son, Richard; a daughter, Karen Hedland; three brothers, Benjamin, Victor and Arnold Elvestrom; and two sisters, Adelia Mundale and Sally Olson.

She is survived by three daughters, Gretchen Mannix, Sara Johnson (Randy) and Martha Knutson (Richard); a son, Leonard Halvorson (Karen); a daughter-in-law, MaryAnn Solmonson (Al); a son-in-law, John Hedland; 17 grandchildren; and 24 great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held Nov. 20 at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, with interment Sunset Cemetery.

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Christmas Eve worship schedule:

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10:30 p.m. worship with Holy Communion

Christmas Day worship schedule:

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Director of Music Ministry: Thomas Ferry

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6:30 p.m. Free young adult dinner in parlor

Monday: 7:30 p.m. Community Bible study in parlor

Christmas Eve: 5 p.m.

There will be no Christmas Day service.

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Wednesday community dinner: 5-6:30 p.m. (starts Jan. 9, free-will offering)

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651-645-3058 www.stmatthewsmn.org

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7:00 p.m. Night Prayer+Eucharist with dinner at 5:30 p.m.

Ugandan Celebration: Jan. 6, 9:15 a.m., all ages learning hour, including Ugandan history, art and music. Reception with Ugandan food at noon. Worship service and music from Uganda featured during the entire month of January at the 10:30 a.m. service.

Undercroft Gallery: Ugandan Art Show, January 13 - February 23





Winter garden blooms: on Feb. 1, you can pick up a form at the Como Avenue Post Office and participate in the St. Anthony Park Garden Club's name-the-plants-in-this-garden contest. *Photo by Kristal Leebrick*

Name these plants

Garden club launches plant-identification contest at Como Avenue Post Office

By Mary Maguire Lerman

On a late-November afternoon, St. Anthony Park Garden Club members quickly changed the concrete facade at the Como Avenue U.S. Post Office into a winter garden. Using fruits, seeds and other parts of woody plants, grasses, sedges, ferns, forbs and perennial flowers, they designed a display that will attract songbirds throughout the winter months. The Post Office staff has said many customers are also attracted to the “winter garden.”

The garden club is also sponsoring a contest to encourage neighbors to learn more about plants. Beginning Feb. 1, you can pick up a contest form at the Como Avenue Post Office. The form will ask you to give the common or Latin name of the plants in the winter garden.

Participants are encouraged to use books from the nearby St.

Anthony Park Branch Library to help with the contest.

Careful, there are some “trick” plants. While most of the material in the garden came from nearby yards, some of the pods were donated by a garden club member who was visiting in the southern United States. So there are plants in the winter garden that are not native to Minnesota.

Participants in each age category who correctly name the most plants in the winter garden will receive a prize. Prizes may include a one-year membership in the St. Anthony Park Garden Club, gift certificates from local nurseries or garden centers and businesses, consultations with local gardeners and garden designers, garden ornaments and more.

The contest is open to all, except members of the St. Anthony Park Garden Club. We will have more details in the February issue of the

Bugle, which comes out in late January.

Mary Maguire Lerman is a member of the St. Anthony Park Garden Club, the current chair of the Minnesota State Horticultural Society and volunteers at the Como Park Conservatory helping maintain the tropical bromeliad collection.

Correction

An article in the December issue of the Park Bugle incorrectly identified the new limestone landscaping at the St. Anthony Park Branch Library as a project of the St. Anthony Park Garden Club. The project was initiated and paid for by the St. Anthony Park Library Board.

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Photo by Ingrid Weithmann

Marriage amendment from 3

importance they attach to the defeat of the marriage amendment, but most agree that the no vote represented a milestone in the political life of the area.

"It changes things tremendously," said Sara Ford, 45, an academic union official who lives with her partner, county planner Kim Klose, 45, and their children in the Como Park neighborhood. "On a grand level, it makes this a better state to live in. I wasn't aware of how much stress I felt until it was over."

Klose adds that she worried about the impact the measure might have had on their sons, who attend fourth and fifth grade in St. Paul Public Schools. "If it were to pass it would [have] sent the message that some families were of lesser value," she said. "We didn't want our sons to hear that message."

Both Klose and Ford had campaigned actively against the marriage amendment, but they let their sons choose whether or not to participate in their mothers' cause. Cullen, who turns 10 this month, responded in his own fashion. During the State Fair, Cullen set up a Vote No pop stand in the front yard to attract passing foot traffic.

Karen Duke and her mother, Joan Duke, took time out from baking banana bread and soothing Karen's cranky 2-year-old, Luca, to talk about their reactions to the vote. Duke, 45, the principal of the Randolph Heights Elementary School, lives with her partner, Desiree Kempcke, 51, an orthopedic surgeon, as well as Luca and their daughter, Naomi, age 6, in St. Anthony Park. Karen's mother and stepfather live a few blocks away.

Initially, Karen said, she was angry at the very idea of the measure. "It felt like a referendum on my family. People [thought] they had the right to vote on my family," she said.

For Karen, who graduated from high school in 1985, "coming out was a non-event," partly because of the support of her family and the embracing environment of her church and her neighborhood. "We haven't tried to be on a mission," she said, "but we're deliberate about being open. We've entered into things with the assumption that we'll be accepted."

Joan Duke said that she felt an "emotional boost" from the failure of the marriage amendment. "The majority of people were at least voting against a bad thing," she explained. "Maybe they're not sure they'd all endorse full gay marriage, but you can feel the tide turning."

Gay marriage is, of course, the next logical step. "We definitely would like to get married," said Karen—for reasons both emotional and practical. "Even our close straight friends don't understand what it means that we can't get married," she adds. "When I had Luca, Desiree had to adopt him. That cost thousands of dollars." Filing as two single taxpayers rather than jointly as a married couple costs them thousands more each year.

Information manager Heather Lewis, 42, and her partner Mary Doran, 50, a member of the St. Paul Board of Education, have a slightly different view of the importance of gay marriage. The couple lives with their two school-age daughters in Como Park.

"We should have all the same rights as anyone else," said Lewis,

"but getting married wouldn't alter our commitment [to each other]."

As a public education official, Doran regrets the money spent on the marriage-amendment campaign. "So much time and money [spent] on an issue that ended up gaining no ground," Doran said. "As someone [associated with] the public schools, I would happily have taken that money for schools."

Although Doran hopes that the Legislature will legalize gay marriage during the upcoming session, she said, "I think they should deal with the budget crisis as a first priority, and if there's time they should pass [gay marriage] at the end of the session."

State Rep. Alice Hausman plans to press for quicker action. "We should move quickly," she said. "We ought to just follow through and repeal the Defense of Marriage Act."

Hausman argues that legalizing gay marriage might not even create much controversy in the state. "In the Legislature," she notes, "55 Democrats and 21 Republicans were elected in districts that voted to defeat the marriage amendment. That's a broad cross-section. It's one of those defining moments in history. It closes the loop of conversation from the campaign."

Their tactical approaches may vary, but many gay families share a vision for a future of ordinary acceptance. Said Karen Duke, "I hope 50 years from now people will say [about gay marriage], 'What? Was that ever in question?'"

Judy Woodward is a reference librarian at Roseville Library and a regular contributor to the Park Bugle.

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Gender Justice from 11

Although the settlement is largely confidential, Stratton cited with satisfaction the company policy changes that resulted. These include training in sexual harassment and providing workers with the company's human resources contact information so workers know where to bring complaints. Leticia did not have the employer's contact information; her only point of

contact was her direct supervisor—and he was her accused rapist.

In September, Gender Justice filed a federal sex discrimination lawsuit on behalf of three women limo drivers in Rochester, Minn., who were denied a lucrative job: chauffeuring a visiting Saudi royal entourage. The limo companies said the Saudis didn't want women drivers.

To bring public attention to the issue, Gaulding and Stratton held a

press conference and a "drive-in" last year in Minneapolis, coinciding with a campaign by Saudi women activists to gain driving rights in their country. The two Minnesota lawyers enthusiastically handed out fliers and green ribbons (symbolizing Saudi Arabia's flag) to passers-by on Lake Street.

Gaulding stressed that while women's rights are central to Gender Justice's mission, it's broader than that. Whenever someone is punished for not fitting gender norms, they want to know about it. "It could be a dad who wants to be an active parent as well as an employee," she said, or a gay man who doesn't act like men "should."

At any given time, Gender Justice has about 10 cases under way or under consideration. As the co-founders, Gaulding and Stratton work long hours, and they are profusely grateful for their volunteers and interns. At some point, they'd like to expand.

Ultimately, both women hope for the day when Gender Justice won't be needed.

Said Stratton: "We would love to put ourselves out of business."

Editors Note: This article appeared first in the December 2012 Minnesota Women's Press magazine. Used with permission.

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JANUARY

Events

Venue information is listed at the end of the calendar. Send your events to calendar@parkbugle.org by Jan. 16 to be included in the February 2013 issue.

1 TUESDAY

New Year's Day: Public libraries are closed.

2 WEDNESDAY

Free blood pressure screening, first Wednesday of the month, 11-11:30 a.m., Blomberg Pharmacy. Sponsored by Como Park/Falcon Heights Living at Home Block Nurse Program.

English Conversation Circles, every Wednesday, St. Anthony Park library, 4-5:30 p.m.

4 FRIDAY

Preschool storytime (ages 3 to 5), every Friday, St. Anthony Park library, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

6 SUNDAY

Live chamber music every Sunday with Emma Gasterland-Gustafson, Matt Dosland and Camille Smith, Finnish

Bistro, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

7 MONDAY

English as a second language class, also on Jan. 14 and 28, St. Anthony Park library, 1-2:30 p.m. Call 651-642-0411 to register.

St. Anthony Park Cub Scout Pack 22 meeting, 7 p.m., St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church

8 TUESDAY

International & Domestic Adoption Information Session, CHSFS, 6-8:30 p.m.

9 WEDNESDAY

Mixed Media Class, Driftwood Community Arts, 4:30 p.m. Ages 5-8. Cost is \$15.

St. Anthony Park Book club, "The Art of Fielding" by Chad Harbach, St. Anthony Park library, 6:30-8 p.m.

Green on the Screen, "In Transition 2.0," Joy of the People, 7-8:30 p.m.

10 THURSDAY

Graffiti with Ken and Carina, Driftwood Community Arts, 4:30 p.m. Two sessions, ages 10-13. Cost is \$25.

Langford Park Winter Classic begins and runs through Sunday, Jan. 13, Langford Park Recreation Center

12 SATURDAY

Green on the Screen, "In Transition 2.0," St. Anthony Park library, 12:30-1:45 p.m.

15 TUESDAY

Baby lapsit storytime, birth-2 years, St. Anthony Park library, 10:30-11 a.m.

Drawing 101, Driftwood Community Arts, 4:30- 6 p.m. Two sessions, ages 13-17. Cost is \$25.

16 WEDNESDAY

Abstract Art, Driftwood Community Arts, 5:30 p.m.-7 p.m. Two sessions, age 18+. Cost is \$25.

17 THURSDAY

Let's Make All St. Anthony Park a Transition Town (ASAP Transition), the first of a series of community meetings

hosted by the District 12 Energy Resilience Group, St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church.

Learn about adopting children who live in foster care, CHSFS, 6-8 p.m.

22 TUESDAY

Sing, Play, Learn with MacPhail: Musical Snowstorm, for ages 0-5, St. Anthony Park library, 4:30-5:15 p.m. Space is limited. Call 651-642-0411 to reserve a spot.

26 SATURDAY

International & Domestic Adoption Information Session, CHSFS, 9-11:30 a.m.

28 JANUARY

Behind the Scenes: Park Square Theatre's "Johnny Baseball," St. Anthony Park library, 7-8:30 p.m. Join the director and cast for an intimate conversation about the new play.

SENIOR 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.

Thursdays, City Gables Apartments Clubhouse, 1611 Pleasant St., Lauderdale, 2-3 p.m.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Blomberg Pharmacy, 1583 N. Hamline Ave., 651-646-9645

CHSFS: Children's Home Society & Family Services, 1605 Eustis St., 651-646-7771

Driftwood Community Arts, 777 Raymond Ave., 651-340-0929, www.driftwoodcommunityarts.com

Finnish Bistro, 2264 Como Ave., 651-645-9181, finnishbistro.com

Joy of the People (formerly South St. Anthony Rec Center), 890 Cromwell Ave., 651-298-5770

Langford Park Recreation Center, 30 Langford Park, 651-298-5765

St. Anthony Park Branch Library, 2245 Como Ave., 651-642-0411

St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church, 2200 Hillside Ave., 651-603-8946



Neighbors

Send us your news about upcoming events or your interesting neighbors to editor@parkbugle.org. The next deadline is Wednesday, Jan. 16.

Recycle your holiday lights

St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church, 2200 Hillside Ave., is a drop-off site for the Recycle Your Holidays recycling program, sponsored by the Recycling Association of Minnesota.

You can drop off electrical cords, holiday lights and appliance cords for recycling. Blue bins are located outside the office doors of the church. The bins will be out through the end of January.

Find out more about the program at recycleminnesota.org.

Mardi Gras Fun Fest

St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church, 2200 Hillside Ave., will host its annual Mardi Gras Fun Fest on Sunday, Feb. 10, at 6 p.m. This event will offer a meal (a free-will donation is requested) followed by entertainment provided by interested audience members.

In the past, entertainment has included piano selections, instrumental selections, hula hooping, skits, dancing and sharing of various collections (such as Lego statues, theater programs and more).

If you would like more information or want to sign up to be part of the entertainment for the evening, please call the church office at 651-646-4859.

If you want to just join in on the fun, please drop by. All are welcome.

Anxiety support group in Midway

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) of Minnesota sponsors a free Open Door Anxiety and Panic support group on the second and fourth Thursday of the month from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Goodwill-Easter Seals, 553 N. Fairview Ave., Room 123. Call 651-645-2948 for more information.

Libraries to host storytelling workshops for kids during break

The St. Paul Public Library will host collaborative storytelling workshops for grade-school children during winter break.

Artist Maureen Carlson will lead participants on an adventure where everyone works together to tell a story. As the story unfolds, Carlson will create the main character out of clay (with group guidance, of course). What color hair will the character have? What does it like to eat? The answer will be different every time.

The workshops are open to children in grades 1-6. The workshops will be held in Bugle-area branch libraries on Friday, Dec. 28.

The locations and times are: Hamline Midway, 1558 W. Minnehaha Ave, 651-642-0293, 12:30 p.m.; Merriam Park, 1831 Marshall Ave., 651-642-0385, 2:30 p.m.; and St. Anthony Park, 2245 Como Ave., 651-642-0411, 4:30 p.m.

Something New will close Dec. 24

Something New, an artist gift shop in the Healy Building, 2301 Como Ave., in St. Anthony Park, will close its doors at 4 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 24. Owner Sue Rohricht thanks the community for supporting the store. "It is unfortunate that we could not draw more people to support us from outside the neighborhood," she said, "but these are tough times all around." the store will be fully stocked until it closes on Monday.

Thank you for your continuing support!

We are grateful to our volunteers for their gifts of service and to our donors for their financial contributions throughout the year. You make this program work!



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School News

The Bugle welcomes news about students and schools in the area. The deadline for the February issue is Wednesday, Jan. 16. Send your news to editor@parkbugle.org.

Brimhall Elementary

1744 W. County Road B
651-638-1958, www.isd623.org/bh

Peacemaking led by peers

Brimhall Elementary School has recently trained a group of enthusiastic sixth-graders to be peer mediators.

The peer-mediation process guides disputants through the steps of problem-solving, allowing them to tell their stories and their feelings and then search for solutions to the problem.

Along the way, they learn good communication and listening skills that can be used throughout their lives.

There are 25 peer mediators at the school who take turns helping younger students resolve conflicts.

The goals of mediation are to understand and respect differing views, to open and improve communication, to develop cooperation in solving a common problem, to conduct a joint process of problem solving and to reach an agreement that benefits both sides.

Less garbage in 2013

The Brimhall breakfast and lunch

programs will implement additional food-waste recycling beginning Jan. 7. Discarded food will be made available to livestock farmers instead of going to a landfill.

The program, sponsored by Ramsey County Rethinking Recycling, has several benefits: students learn responsibility for their community and environment, and trash-hauling fees are potentially reduced.

Como Park Senior High

740 Rose Ave., 651-293-8800
www.comosr.spps.org

Visit Como to learn more about it

During the months of January and February, prospective students and their families are invited to visit Como Park Senior High School to learn about the school, its curriculum and Advanced Placement courses, extra-curricular activities and comprehensive athletic program.

Tours for parents and students are offered on Wednesday and Thursday mornings at 8 a.m. Students may shadow a current ninth-grader on Tuesdays through mid-February.

Please call the guidance office, 651-744-5455, to schedule a tour or shadow date.

Como Showcase is Jan. 24

The schoolwide Como Showcase will be held Thursday, Jan. 24, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. This event is a perfect time to see the entire school in action. The band and orchestra will be performing, clubs and activities will have displays throughout the building, academic departments will present overviews of their courses, student athletes will be on hand, and the counseling staff will be ready to assist with enrollment questions.

Debaters were finalists in tourney

Senior Ian Johnson and freshman Liam Anderson were quarter-finalists at the December Novice/JV State Debate Tournament in Eagan. There were 70 teams competing in their division.

Pottery sale benefits food shelf

Ceramics students sold \$250 worth of bowls at the parent-teacher conferences in November. Proceeds from the sale went to Second Harvest food shelf. The money was sent in on Give to the Max day, so Como Park ceramic students' donation was doubled to \$500.

Meet Evelin Quiceno

New to Como Park Senior High School this year is Medellin,

Colombia, native Evelin Quiceno.

Quiceno, 23, attended and graduated from college in Medellin and is staying with a Como Park family while teaching Spanish classes with Kathryn Herrema-Johnson for the 2012-13 school year. It is the first time she has been outside of South America.

When she first came to the United States, she was surprised by the differences between Colombian and United States food and high school. In Colombia, school starts at 6:30 a.m. and senior year is the hardest year of school.

Quiceno's favorite things about the United States so far are working at school and spending time at the Mall of America.

Murray Junior High

2200 Buford Ave., 651-293-8740
www.murray.spps.org

Shakespeare, anyone?

Eighth-grade English classes studied "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and went to Park Square Theatre to see its production. The students also had a drama immersion experience where they learned about stage makeup, stage combat, improvisation, using Shakespearean insults and performing Shakespeare.

Murray fall sports wrap-up

Girl's basketball and co-ed wrestling began their defense on their city conference championships Nov. 20. Murray and all St. Paul City Conference schedules are available at www.spps.org/sports.

Musical collaboration

Murray band students worked with the Como Park Senior High School students in November, when the high-schoolers came to Murray to mentor and collaborate. The Como jazz band and members of the orchestra also played in Murray's Dec. 13 concert.

After-school program

Starting Jan 7, students' after-school class schedules and attendance will be available on the Parent Portal. Parents and guardians may also look up a student's class schedule and bus information on Murray's website under the After School Activities link. Session 2 will begin Jan. 14 and end March 20.

It's never too late to register. If you have any questions or comments, please email Hue Lieu, the program coordinator, at hue.lieu@spps.org.

Science fair judges needed

Murray's seventh- and eighth-graders will present their science projects to three judges on Tuesday, Jan. 15, in hopes of moving on to the regional science fair.

Judges are needed for the school fair. Judging runs from 6 to 9 p.m. and the school provides a light refreshment. Orientation begins at 5:45 p.m.

If you would like to be a judge,

contact Gen Nakanishi at 651-744-5233 or gen.nakanishi@spps.org.

Winter break

St. Paul Public Schools are on break from Friday, Dec. 22, through Wednesday, Jan. 2. School will be back in session on Thursday, Jan. 3.

St. Anthony Park Elementary

2180 Knapp St., 651-293-8735
www.stanthony.spps.org

Community supports school

St. Anthony Park Elementary School thanks the community for its support. Fundraising by the parent organization, SAPSA, is a year-round activity at the school. It begins each fall with wrapping paper sales, Chinook book sales, and the Fall Festival and silent auction.

The school also receives support from the St. Anthony Park Community Foundation and neighboring businesses. Most recently, Micawber's Books on Carter Avenue hosted its annual fundraiser event for the school on Dec. 1, donating a portion of sales that day to the school.

Thanks to this generous support, the school is able to enrich learning opportunities, and that includes the artist-in-residence program.

This winter's artist-in-residence program includes T. Mychael Rambo, Kenna Sarge and In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre. Other enrichment opportunities at the school include environmental education such as field trips to Belwin Nature Center and Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center, Destination ImagiNation, Lego League and music education. In addition, the foundation helps support the Music in the Park series, which brings musical performances into the school.

Volunteers donate many hours organizing fundraisers, escorting students on field trips and building a sense of community by attending SAPSA and site council meetings. The school also welcomes volunteer tutors who help out either in the class or after school.

If you are interested in tutoring, contact the school's Believe Achieve tutoring coordinator, Molly Hottman, at molly.hottman@sppsfoundation.org.

Parent Information Fair is Jan. 12

St. Anthony Park Elementary School will be one of many schools with a booth at the 2013 Parent Information Fair, which will take place from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sat., Jan. 12, at St. Paul RiverCentre, 175 W. Kellogg Blvd.

School applications for all grade levels in St. Paul Public Schools are due on Feb. 15.

Take a tour

Tours for families interested in St. Anthony Park Elementary School are available. Please call 651-293-8735 to make an appointment.

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Murray Junior High School gets ready for middle school

By Kristal Leebrick

Since Thanksgiving, fifth- and sixth-graders have been arriving en masse to the halls of Murray Junior High School, 2200 Buford Ave., to spend time checking out classrooms and shadowing older students. Those crowds of young faces are a harbinger of the big change happening at the school next fall when it moves from a seventh- and eighth-grade junior high school to a middle school that will include sixth grade.

The 2013-14 school year marks the second year of St. Paul Public Schools' new enrollment plan, Strong Schools, Strong Communities. Come fall, the district's community elementary schools will transition to grades K-5, sixth-graders will move to middle schools and the new boundaries will take effect for elementary and middle schools, many of which will lose their magnet status and districtwide transportation.

Schools in Como Park and St. Anthony Park are part of Area E, and that includes Chelsea Heights, Como Park, Galtier, Hancock-Hamline and St. Anthony Park elementary schools. Students at those schools will feed into Murray Middle School.

Having two grades of students coming from five elementary schools prompted Murray principal Tim Williams to streamline the touring and shadowing process at the school. "We contacted all five schools to set up a day where all the students from each grade would come to spend a day."

When school resumes in January after winter break, the school will open tours and shadowing days to students outside the attendance area. "We still have a fair amount of requests from kids who live outside our attendance area," Williams said. "I don't know if they will get in necessarily, but we will set up a couple of days for students who live outside the area."

Moving a mass amount of preadolescents through the school before winter break is the beginning of many changes the school will see in the coming year.

To accommodate another age group of students, Williams said the school is planning to reorganize classrooms and curriculum.

"The biggest change is how our entire building will be set up [next year]," Williams said. "We are moving to interdisciplinary teams and those teams will be geographically located."

Murray classrooms are currently divided by subject area, but Williams is hoping to keep teams in the same area so that each grade is on its own floor. Each teaching team will be made up of four core teachers: math, science, English and social studies. Williams anticipates two teams per grade.

"There will be about 135 kids on a team," he said. One team of four teachers will teach the core

classes to the same 135 students. The teachers' classrooms will be near each other and teachers will collaborate in teaching, working with the students and developing curriculum, Williams said. Students will leave the area for elective classes.

"One-hundred-and-thirty-five kids is a lower number than what our teachers have now," he said. "It should help with the relationship piece. Now they see between 170 and 180 kids a day."

"One of the reasons we are going to this model is to give middle-schoolers the additional year to develop relationships," Williams said. Though the sixth grade will have its own curriculum, the students in that grade will be able to participate in band, foreign languages and other electives at the school.

Murray's current curriculum provides accelerated classes in its core subjects for students who need the challenge. Williams is not sure how the accelerated classes will be handled within each teaching team, he said, "but we are committed to offering accelerated classes in all of our cores."

Space at the school will be tight in September. Enrollment projections for next year are 270 students in both sixth and seventh grades. Current seventh-graders, whether they live in Area E or not, are grandfathered in, so the eighth-grade population is projected at 370. Murray's current population is 770 students.

Murray will hold a showcase on Feb. 7, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. for prospective students and their

parents. That showcase comes one week before the Feb. 15 deadline for applications to the school district's Placement Center.

To find out more about visiting Murray, call 651-651-293-8740. To find out more about enrollment options in St. Paul Public Schools, visit the 2013 Parent Information Fair on Saturday, Jan. 12, from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., at St. Paul RiverCentre, 175 W. Kellogg Blvd.

Families also can get one-on-one help from the St. Paul Public Schools Student Placement Center staff regarding the school choice process and how to complete an application. Call 651-632-3760 for more information.

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Murray Principal Timothy Williams (top row, second from left) and teacher Tim Chase (second row from top at right) pose with students selected for the new Wolf Ridge course at Murray Junior High School.

Teacher sees Wolf Ridge-Murray class as potential life-changer for students

By Natalie Zett

Tim Chase begins each school year by telling his students at Murray Junior High School how his "failed sales career" led him to his true calling as a science teacher.

"I grew up in southern Wisconsin, got a business degree and left for the Twin Cities to make my fame and fortune, and it wasn't going well," he explained. "My girlfriend, Donna, who later became my wife, suggested that I quit and do something I love." Chase, who has been teaching at Murray for 18 years, returned to school and became a science teacher.

"I really wanted to teach junior high school kids," he said. "They're young enough to be silly, but old enough to think critically, and science offers a lot for them to do and to be involved in."

So when Peter Smerud, the executive director of Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center in Finland, Minn., approached Chase about a concept for a new science elective course, Chase was all ears.

Next fall, Murray will offer Ecology Inquiry Immersion: A Wolf Ridge Elective (EII) in partnership with Wolf Ridge. The course will combine chemistry, biology and earth science and culminate with a two-week summer trip to the environmental camp. The course is aimed at eighth-graders who were in grade-level science classes in seventh grade but are ready to move into a more challenging curriculum.

Wolf Ridge and Murray have a long history of working together. For the past 30 years, groups of Murray students have traveled to Wolf Ridge in November to take environmental classes. "We call it our 'leadership retreat,' an environmental retreat where students lead other students into team-building activities and problem-solving," Chase said.

The retreat also takes a look at the variety of cultures represented at Murray. "Because we are a diverse school, we have student leaders teach about the different cultures that are represented in our school. This brings home that all these students, and all these cultures, live in St. Paul," he said. "Our theme for the week is 'We are more alike than different.'"

Wolf Ridge has a program where high school students take extra science classes after school and then come to Wolf Ridge for two weeks in the summer to work on individual projects and learn more about ecology. "They wanted to expand this program into junior high, and Peter reached out to us," Chase said. "[Smerud] said, 'Murray has a diverse population, and you celebrate it, and we want to reach out to students of color.'"

Chase and Tim Williams, principal of Murray, worked together to create the EII program. "It's a two-trimester course where the students will get additional exposure to chemistry, biology and earth science," Chase said.

The EII program will also bridge a gap. "When students are in seventh grade, some are placed into an advanced pathway that allows them to complete seventh-, eighth- and ninth-grade standards," said Chase. "When they go to high school, they immediately go into a 10th-grade biology class. The other is a regular science pathway where students meet seventh- and eighth-grade standards. That's great, but that decision is made in seventh grade, and some students mature over these two years. During that time, many might be ready to take additional science and go into that 10th-grade biology class [in ninth grade]. However, we haven't had a way to make that happen."

The EII program would open the doors for those students.

"Students who may have missed out during that seventh-grade decision-making process will now they have this on-ramp to this challenge pathway," he said.

Chase introduced the new course to current seventh-graders at Murray, who had to apply to be in the class. "I went to all of the earth science classes and had them contact me if interested," he said. "I then contacted parents to see if they were OK with their child enrolling in the class and spending two weeks at Wolf Ridge during the summer."

Twenty-two students enrolled in the class.

Chase hopes this will be a life-changing experience for the students. "They can go into high school and skip that ninth-grade science curriculum because they'll get through this program. This will open more electives for them for whatever their interests are, whether it's art, science, social studies and so on."

EII consists of two experiences at Wolf Ridge: a weekend orientation in May and then students will return for two weeks in July.

"During that time, students will do individual environmental inquiry where they will look at nature and see how something has an effect on something else," Chase said. "For example, how does the soil type affect the type of plants that grow there? How much does the tree canopy affect the types of plants growing underneath it? These are typical questions that a student might experiment with and collect data on. They will learn the process of science."

The St. Anthony Park Community Foundation has played a big role in helping bring this class to fruition, Chase said. "The foundation sees the extreme value in this program and is willing to lend

Murray science class to 20

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Murray science class from 18

support for our students.” The foundation is helping find funding from several sources, said Jon Schumacher, the foundation’s executive director.

Since many of the students will be going on to Como Park Senior High School, Chase hopes Murray will be able to monitor EIT’s success.

“We’ll know how many of these students, after completing this

program, will go into that 10th-grade biology class,” Chase said, “and we’ll see how many of them are successful in it.

“The big dream is to get more students involved in these fast tracks.”

Chase believes the outside world is his classroom. “Once students are studying outside,” he said, “they can make inferences from direct

observation. It’s a powerful way to understand the world we live in.”

Natalie Zett has been writing for the Park Bugle since the early 1990s. Her work has appeared in a number of Twin Cities publications, including Metro Lutheran, American Jewish News, and Minnesota Monthly.

A house in a day

It took a couple of semi-trailers and a crane to bring Eric Hansen’s and Jeannine Duncan’s new house to its new home on Ludlow Avenue in St. Anthony Park on Dec. 11. The house is a “weeHouse,” a line of prefabricated contemporary homes designed by architect Geoffrey Warner, founder of Alchemy Architects on Raymond Avenue in St. Anthony Park. The Hansen-Duncan house came in two rectangular box-like sections that were set onto its foundation that afternoon. The couple hopes to move into the house by the end of February. The daylong event attracted a number of spectators. By twilight, the crowd, crane and trucks were gone, and the house was ready for the finishing work. *Photos by Kristal Leebrick*



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