**Mining big ideas**

Como teacher and student want to use their ‘life-changing experience’ at Aspen Ideas Festival to create a local celebration of thought.

By Judy Woodward

Wanted: Are you pragmatic, patient, decisive and open to innovation? If so, you may be just the person Como Park Senior High School incoming senior Marshal Landrum needs for his team.

Earlier this summer Landrum was one of 12 American Bezos Scholars, high school students who survived a rigorous screening process to receive an all-expenses-paid trip to the prestigious Aspen Ideas Festival in Colorado. There, the students—each with a teacher from his or her school—rubbed elbows with heavy-hitters such as Supreme Court Justice Elena Kagan, world-famous cellist Yo-Yo Ma and Internet crowd-sourcing innovator Perry Chen, co-founder of Kickstarter.com.

Landrum and Como biology teacher Kathryn Kahn’s participation was funded by the Bezos Family Foundation, an education-oriented nonprofit run by the parents of Jeff Bezos, founder of Amazon.com.

For Landrum and Kahn it was the trip of a lifetime. “A life-changing experience,” is how Kahn describes it.

Says Landrum, “So many people get a 4-point GPA or a 36 on the ACT, but what sets people apart is when they lean out of [their] comfort zone to accomplish their goals.” For Landrum—a top scholar and high school athlete—part of leaning out means organizing an ideas festival right here in his home neighborhood.

And that’s where the idea of the team comes in. “One of the exercises at Aspen was identifying our leadership qualities,” Landrum explains. Leadership qualities they possess, that is, and leadership qualities they need.

“We learned that it’s important to surround ourselves with people with the same passion, but different skills,” says Kahn. Between the two of them, they have “charisma, moxie and confidence.” (That’s Landrum.) Also a passion for teaching, optimism, integrity and good communication skills. (Kahn.) What’s needed to bring the local ideas festival to life is a few more team members with the skills listed in the first paragraph of this article. Landrum hopes to recruit from among his fellow students and the faculty at Como Park Senior High School, but he also wants to involve the community as a whole.

As for the theme of what they’re calling—at least in its early stages—the Big Idea Festival, Landrum is still a little hazy.

“After all we’ve got a whole year to plan,” he says. His personal passions are “the environment and physical fitness,” but he also notes that “the community will guide me to what needs emphasis.”

Marshal Landrum and Kathryn Kahn

Photo by Lori Hamilton

**Raymond Avenue construction delayed**

The Raymond Avenue construction project between University and Hampden avenues has been pushed back to the middle of August. The project had been slated to begin in mid-July.

The city has selected a contractor for the project and property owners can expect a mailing with further details as the beginning of the project approaches. Discussions are also under way for how best to alleviate parking concerns for businesses.

There are no informational meetings scheduled, but Barb Mundahl, the City of St. Paul project engineer, will field questions regarding the project. She can be reached at 651-266-6112 or by email at Barbara.mundahl@ci.stpaul.mn.us. Construction Inspector Mike Vanbouskirk can be reached at 651-266-6083.

The St. Anthony Park Transportation Committee has designed yard signs to post around the construction signaling that businesses are and will remain open through construction. The committee is also exploring ways to increase community involvement for phases 2 and 3 of the Raymond Avenue project, which are tentatively slated to begin in 2014. Information on all stages of the project will be posted to the St. Anthony Park Community Council website (apcc.org) as soon as it is made available.

**Good luck**

Artist Shakun Maheshwari of COMPAS teaches Alyssa St. Clair, 10, and her sister, Mackenzie, 7, the techniques of Rangoli: temporary floor art that people create and redo daily in India to bring good luck and happiness to their homes. COMPAS was one of many exhibitors at the July 18 Lyngblomsten Mid-Summer Fest, part of the weekend-long Como Fest activities. See more summer scenes on pages 10-11.

Photo by Kristal Leebrick
Falcon Heights
Como Park

Tuesday, July 30, and the last day to
Falcon Heights has two at-large
2013 Elections
the second and fourth Wednesday of
the Historic Streetcar Station, 1224
Celebration. The meeting will be
this year’s Hmong Freedom
community meeting to debrief and
Otremba, Kerby Pettinelli, Nile
Lexington Parkway and Larpenteur
installed in the windows of the new
Walgreens window photos
be adopted by the St. Paul City
strategic plan, which will eventually
in the district’s long-term land-use
invited to help craft the
Committee will hold a public
District 10’s ad hoc District Plan
Share your thoughts about parks
in the Como Park neighborhood
meetings from the normal meeting
Council will move two upcoming
District 10 goes on the road
column on the left of the page.
Register for August camps
for ages 5-10,
for ages 6-8, will be held Monday-Thursday,
Aug. 15-18, from 1-2 p.m. Session 1, for ages 9-11, will be held at 1-2:30 p.m. Session 2, for ages 9-11, will be held at 3-4:30 p.m.
Build Your Own Boat, for ages 10-13, will be held Monday-Thursday, Aug. 19-22, noon-4 p.m., at Community Park, 2050 Rosalene Ave.
Lacrosse Camp, for ages 6-5, will be held Monday-Friday, Aug. 5-9, 9:30 a.m.-noon, at Community Park, 2050 Rosalene Ave.

Share your thoughts about parks in the Como Park neighborhood
District 10’s ad hoc District Plan Committee will hold a public meeting on Monday, Sept. 9 from 7 to 9 p.m. at North Dale Rec Center, 1414 St. Albans St. Residents are invited to help craft the neighborhood’s vision for parks (including, but not exclusively, Como Regional Park) for inclusion in the districts long-term land-use strategic plan, which will eventually be adopted by the St. Paul City Council. Refreshments will be provided.

Walgreens window photos
New photos depicting scenes in the Como Park neighborhood have been installed in the windows of the new Walgreens store on the corner of Larpenteur Ave. South and Commonwealth Ave. The photos were contributed by residents Jennifer O’Barima, Kerby Pettenelli, Nile Faiella, Linda Hindsen, Ted Blank and Kim Moom.
Hmong commemoration celebration
The St. Paul Police Department and Lao Family of M Innheua will host a community meeting to debrief and discuss community concerns about this year’s Hmong Freedom Celebration. The meeting will be held at Alden Square, at 6 p.m. on the Historic Streetcar Station, 1224 N. L nneapolis Parkway.
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, 2050 W. Larpenteur Ave.

2013 Elections
Falcon Heights has two at-large council members seats open for the 2013 election. The first day to file is Tuesday, July 30, and the last day to file is Tuesday, Aug. 13, at 5 p.m. Go to the Ramsey County Elections

Join this community conversation
The Human Rights Commission and Advocates for Human Rights invite Falcon Heights residents to attend a community conversation on Monday, Aug. 19, 7:30 p.m. at the Falcon Heights Council Chambers, 2077 W. Larpenteur Ave.
The part is an event of a community
project led by the Advocates for Human Rights that seeks to monitor, 2077 W. Larpenteur Ave; and, on Monday, Sept. 9, 7 p.m., at
Minneopa welcomes all residents of the state.
The conversation will try to answer these questions. What does “welcome” mean to you? How would you define a welcoming community? In what areas could M Innheua be made more welcoming?
If you want to attend, contact Michelle Tessier, Human Rights Commission staff liaison, at michelle.tessier@falconheights.org or 651-792-7617.

Parks and Rec Commission will tour Falcon Heights parks
The Parks and Recreation Commission has been visiting Falcon Heights parks this summer. If you have park-maintenance issues, comments or suggestions, the commission will host an open forum after each visit. Here is the rest of the summer schedule: Monday, Aug. 12, 7 p.m. at Curtiss Field; and, on Monday, Sept. 7, 7 p.m., Grove Park.

Night to Unite returns Aug. 6
Join the St. Anthony Police Department and the Minnesota Crime Prevention Association for the fifth annual Minnesota Night to Unite on Tuesday, Aug. 6, from 6 to 9 p.m.
Residents who plan to host a block party on Aug. 6 or another date are asked to notify City Hall at 651-792-7600. Please leave your name and phone number when calling, so we can approximate number of people attending. Your time party will begin, if you would like to invite police, fire or city elected officials and if you will require barricades. If you are interested in blocking off streets, the Public Works Department will deliver street barricades prior to your scheduled block party.

Register for August camps
Register for Falcon Heights August camps atwww.falconheights.org. Click on Parks and Recreation in the column on the left of the page.

Tennis Camp, for ages 5-10, will be held Monday-Friday, July 29-Aug. 2, at Community Park, 2050 Rosalene Ave. Session 1, 9:30-10 a.m., is ages 5-7. Session 2, 10:35-12:30 p.m., is for ages 8-10.

Supporters of Camp, for ages 6-8, will be held Monday-Tuesday, Aug. 12-15, at Falcon Heights Elementary School, 152 Garden Ave. The camp runs 9:30-11 a.m.

Harry Potter Camp, for ages 8-12, will be held Monday-Friday, Aug. 12-16, 8:15-4:30 a.m. at Community Park, 2050 Rosalene Ave. Camp fees vary by age.

The Great Adventure Camp, for ages 6-12, will be held Monday-Friday, Aug. 12-16, at Community Park, 2050 Rosalene Ave., H ours are on file. No food.

Lacrosse Camp, for ages 6-11, will be held Monday-Friday, Aug. 5-9, 9:30 a.m-Noon, at Community Park, 2050 Rosalene Ave.

Lil’ Explorers Camp, for ages 3-5, will be held Monday-Friday, Aug. 5-9, 9:30 a.m.-noon, at Community Park, 2050 Rosalene Ave.

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No yoke, Scandinavians are funny

By Roger Bergerson

Scandinavian humor? Why, that’s a contradiction in terms, isn’t it? Not hardly, ya know.

There’s plenty of humor in Pretty Much 100% Scandinavian, a series of films co-produced by St. Anthony Park resident Bill Beyer and award-winning Swedish filmmaker Stefan Quinth. The “sagas,” as they are called, show how humor helped immigrants cope with the hardships of a new land and gave their descendants the means to retain a sense of community.

One example: A Norwegian fellow grew up in a small Minnesota town with a Swedish church and a Norwegian church a block apart. He recalls asking his father, “Would you ever consider being buried in the Swedish cemetery?” The reply: “I’d rather be dead.”

Scandinavian humor is delivered with a twinkle in the eye, rather than a big grin and the audiences aren’t necessarily demonstrative, either. There’s the story of a comedian telling all his best jokes to a seemingly indifferent group. Afterward, a fellow comes up to him and says, “Y’know, you’re the funniest guy we’ve ever had here. I almost laughed out loud!”

“It’s a self-deprecating, nonoffensive humor that provides a perspective about Scandinavians,” Beyer explained. “And it’s a way to talk about personal awkwardness or embarrassment, for instance, that ends up in laughter and that’s a redemption of sorts.”

Beyer and his wife, Margareta, a native of Gothenburg, Sweden, have lived in their home St. Anthony Park since 1983, raising their daughters, Kerstin and Emma, there.

After 25 years as an administrator at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities Campus, Beyer served as associate director of the American Swedish Institute in Minneapolis.

It was there that he met Quinth, who visited the institute on several occasions to show his work, including a film in progress about Scandinavian Americans on Kodiak Island, Alaska.

“For a number of reasons, they’re a people with only snippets of cultural memory, but I pointed out to Stefan that that isn’t the case here,” Beyer said. “We have cultural connections that are kept alive through the tremendous number of interactions, not only among Scandinavians here, but between people and institutions in the United States and those in Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden.”

The two agreed to join forces and began filming interviews with literally hundreds of Scandinavian Americans across Minnesota, eastern North Dakota and western Wisconsin. The first saga was ready for viewing in October 2009.

St. Anthony Park Library to reopen Aug. 5

The St. Anthony Park Library, 2245 Como Ave., St. Paul, will reopen Monday, Aug. 5, at noon and will host a grand reopening party on Wednesday, Aug. 14, from 6 to 8 p.m. The library closed in early June to make building improvements that included the installation of a single public-service point and an automated materials-handling system.

The Aug. 14 party will feature the amazing 40-plus-square-foot miniatures LEGO city created by St. Anthony Park residents Jennifer Heston and Nathan Stothmann. New buildings have been added to the display since the library hosted it last March.

Because St. Anthony Park Library is a stop on DK Publishing’s Books & Bricks LEGO Star Wars Summer Reading Tour, there will be LEGO Star Wars books and other prizes that will be given away during the celebration.

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By Kao Kalia Yang
When my family first arrived in America, we lived in the projects of St. Paul. I there weren’t many white families. By the time we came over the late 1980s, the McDonough housing Project was where we lived and many of my cousins lived consisted of mostly Hmong and African-American families. It was the summer of 1987. I was six years old. I got into my first public fight.

My younger cousin and I were playing on a small playground in the McDonough Housing Project. It was a hot summer day. The playground was covered in a soft, hot tire-like plastic. We had taken off our sandals. We were climbing the small stairs that led to a small platform for a slide. The African-American boy was standing at the edge of the playground. He couldn’t have been older than I was. He waved us over on the platform. I turned to him. He started speaking in English.

We just got to America. I couldn’t understand a word of what he was saying. I shouted at my shoulders to express my lack of comprehension. He spoke louder. I turned away from him. His volume increased. I turned back to him. I stuck out my tongue. Before I could anticipate anything, he was right beneath the platform. I was so surprised, I didn’t know what to do. He did not hesitate. He grabbed my big toe. He bit on it. I cried in pain. I yelled for my little cousin to help me. I could see the fear in his eyes. He was right beneath the platform. I started kicking at the boy’s head with my other foot. At first, I was just kicking at the boy’s toe. He bit on it. I felt the skin of my toe growing away from us. I could see the fear in his eyes that scared him more than I did because he ran.

By the time Dawb reached me, my toe was red with blood. It was on the outside of my foot. He was standing at the edge of the playground. He bit on it. I cried out in pain. He stood there, looking at my toe, crying. She asked what happened and I told her. She shook her head, “Such things happen.” I turned to her. Her voice saying, “Hey, girl.”

It was the summer of 1987, hot and humid. Dawb and I were walking up a hill in the McDonough Housing Project, our way on our project from a short visit to an uncle’s house. I was limping a little, but mostly because I had a large Hmong cucumber wrapped in a baby blanket. We didn’t have doilies. Our father had drawn a baby face onto one end of the cucumber. The cucumber was our baby.

The cat we were pulling was a garage sale purchase. It’s old wheels weren’t cooperating on the climbing. The hill we were going up was too steep. I had grown tired of the pulling so I walked a few steps in front of Dawb. We both turned at a boy’s voice saying, “Hey, girl.” It was an African-American boy running up the hill after us. He was about my age, younger than Dawb or me. We were almost the same when he caught up with us on our halt.

He said, “Can I help you two?” Dawb said, “No, we go this.” He told me, “I like you.”

Dawb said, “No, you don’t.” He ran up to her and he kissed her on the cheek. She was so stunned. She didn’t say anything. Her eyes were round. He turned and he ran away. That was the first and the last time we saw the boy. He was Dawb’s first kiss. I witnessed the wholeness.

At St. Mary’s Junior High School there was a black boy who wore glasses and belts. He tucked his shirts in. He carried a red backpack. We didn’t know anything about this boy. We were the only black and white classmates. He was a scholarly boy and I was a scholarly girl, so we got along well and sometimes worked as partners on science labs. I don’t remember his name, but I remember a story he told me during a slow hour about the death of his cousin.

He said his cousin wasn’t much older than himself. His cousin was caught stealing from a gas station. His cousin was killed. He told me not knowing how to respond to his story because it was obvious that he was about to cry. I didn’t want him to cry. I didn’t have any questions to ask to divert his tears. I started talking to him about how people died all the time in the Mountain Refuge Camps.

By the end of our conversation he said, “You know, when a black boy dies, no one really cares.”

It has been two decades since that conversation in junior high. I have no idea what his name or where he is. I was just young to comprehend the reality of his words or the harshness of his observation about the world we lived in. I was a girl from the refugee camps of Thailand, used to death by disease and war, unsure about the particulars of America’s problems with race, too busy exploring my own place in the world—to understand his— to know that we shared the same space. But at 32 years of age, I’ve often wondered where he is, or the boy who gave Dawb her first kiss, or that little boy that bit my toe. I’ve wondered where they all are and I’ve been worried about them because of the death of a boy, Trayvon Martin.

I know the statistics that govern boys of color in Minnesota. I know that boys of color in Minnesota (as well as nationally) are six times more likely to be suspended from school than their white counterparts—despite the fact that there’s no indication that they have more disruptive behavior, and they are more often referred to law enforcement.

I care that Trayvon Martin is dead. I care that so many of them I love, the men of color in my life, are in danger of dying in these cities, in this state, in this country and that nobody would care.

The question is How do we translate care beyond the words we say to the boys and the man of color we love when they venture beyond the color lines—the words that have hemmed them in and kept them home away from this world of American success and American possibility, the proven reality of American injustice—the words “be careful?”

Kao Kalia Yang is a writer, public speaker, teacher and the author of The Latehomecomer: A Hmong Family Memoir. This commentary was reprinted with permission from Opine Saxon, a cooperative op-ed page that features a number of local writers and artists. You can read more at www.opinsaxon.com.
Parents and sons

By Dave H o l y

P arents are our first and most influential coaches. Their most important coaching has nothing to do with sports but some parents—in addition to more essential instruction—are involved in getting their children started in an athletic pursuit. My father was a coach by vocation, and over his career he coached football, basketball, tennis and golf at the high school or college level. He was never paid to coach baseball, but he did so for one season, taking the helm of my Como Youth baseball team when I was 10.

Besides coaching that team, my father occasionally played catch with me, and sometimes he took my brothers and me over to Como Park and hit fly balls to us. Although I don’t think he fancied himself an expert on baseball, he did have some talent in his swing. In the off-season, he would try his hand at pitching, and I watched him as I sought to imitate his pitching. He threw a curveball and a fastball. I watched it go by. He summoned: “Strike three!”

The most seasoned umpire could have pronounced it with as much authority and doom as my father hurled his voice, before the curtain parts. Into that first entrance, that was voluminous, capacious, linguistically incorrect to ascribe any explanation. But the most important lesson we learn from others do not result from what we are told but rather from what we are shown. Fifty years ago, my father taught me that a fastball. I watched it go by. I have learned many things from my father. Some have been the outcome of overt instruction or demonstration. But the most important lessons we learn from others do not result from what we are told but rather from what we are shown. Fifty years ago, my father taught me that a fastball is a strike, no matter who is behind the plate.

I have learned other important things over the years, one of which is the reality of grace. Grace is unmistakable favor, and it is perhaps the greatest gift we can receive. But grace must always be unexpected and undeserved. There is a time to bestow and a time to be hard. To call your first born son out on strikes in the last of the last is hard. My father is a gracious man, but he is also wise. And on a baseball field many years ago, my father let his wisdom rule his heart.

Good call, ump.

Fathers and Sons is an excerpt from Dave H o l y’s book Baseball Dreams. To learn more, go to davidamelshawy.wordpress.com.
Como Golf Course will remain a golf course—for now

Plan to look at alternative uses for the course has been tabled; course needs more golfers to help it get out of the red

By Kyle Mianulli

Como Golf Course is not yet out of the rough, but for the foreseeable future, it has cleared a potential hazard.

With St. Paul city golf courses struggling to break even in the midst of a national dip in the sport’s popularity, coupled with some brutal weather in recent seasons, city officials are taking a serious look at the viability of the city’s four public courses.

News that St. Paul Parks and Recreation was seeking funding to look at repurposing Como Golf Course recently cast some doubt over the course’s future. But for the foreseeable future, Como Golf Course is not yet out of the rough.

“At Como we are just focused on trying to improve that course,” said Tom Dapper, a longtime member of the Como Men’s Golf Club and part-time employee at the course. “I think, generally speaking, it’s probably easier to make a few changes (now) than it was several years ago.”

The season’s cold and soggy start also continues to challenge Como Golf Course, which with winter weather that dragged on right through spring, courses were open for only five days in April.

That put the number of rounds played at Como down 98 percent from the previous year at the same time and rounds for all four courses down 83 percent. That’s a difference in revenue of more than $350,000, according to the most recent Golf St. Paul Performance Plan.

“That’s an awful lot of revenue when you’re lookin’ at an entire four-course operation,” Meyer said.

“From our perspective, it begs the question of whether we should be in the golf course industry at all.”

Being a nonessential service, golf course revenue yields little or no tax funding from the city, leaving them to cover their own costs. When they can’t make ends meet, it further strains an already pinched city budget.

Major renovations to Highland National Golf Course, which reopened in 2005, are consuming those financial woes. Course revenue was supposed to pay off the debt from the project, but that looks more unrealistic as all courses continue to sink into the red.

No joke from 3

“There’s a market for Como,” agreed Tom Dapper, a longtime member of the Como Men’s Golf Club and part-time employee at the course. “I think, generally speaking, it’s probably easier to make a few changes (now) than it was several years ago.”

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Major renovations to Highland National Golf Course, which reopened in 2005, are consuming those financial woes. Course revenue was supposed to pay off the debt from the project, but that looks more unrealistic as all courses continue to sink into the red.

“Pretty Much 100%,” said Meyer. “It’s a market for Como. We know that the demand is there. So it’s a matter of making it work.”

Meyer sees a convincing case to be made in attracting golfers to Como and other city courses. While a thrifty player might save a couple of bucks on greens fees by venturing to more outlying courses, the cost of gas and the time you spend driving to them mitigates that difference.

“You don’t have to make going to Como a weekly or bi-weekly event to play golf an all-day expedition,” he said.

Despite the convenience factor, Como is still struggling and seems to be lagging even more than other city courses. In terms of revenue, it’s the least of Como’s problems.

“I could see arguments made that Como has a vulnerability,” Dapper said.

That vulnerability means for its future remains uncertain, though it doesn’t look likely the land will become a dog park or anything other than an 18-hole golf course in the immediate future.

The city is working with the course to stay abreast of potential plans and is cooperating with Parks and Recreation to do whatever is possible to get back on its feet. Dapper said.

As for now, a soggy spring has translated into lush green fairways. The golf course is in excellent shape and on the web at www.cameraq.com.

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Meyer sees a convincing case to be made in attracting golfers to Como and other city courses. While a thrifty player might save a couple of bucks on greens fees by venturing to more outlying courses, the cost of gas and the time you spend driving to them mitigates that difference.

“You don’t have to make going to Como a weekly or bi-weekly event to play golf an all-day expedition,” he said.

Despite the convenience factor, Como is still struggling and seems to be lagging even more than other city courses. In terms of revenue, it’s the least of Como’s problems.

“I could see arguments made that Como has a vulnerability,” Dapper said.

That vulnerability means for its future remains uncertain, though it doesn’t look likely the land will become a dog park or anything other than an 18-hole golf course in the immediate future.

The course is working with the city to stay abreast of potential plans and is cooperating with Parks and Recreation to do whatever is possible to get back on its feet. Dapper said.

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By Sharon Shinomiya

In June, the Como Community Council’s Environment Committee selected six neighborhood homeowners and their eight trees to honor with the Como Tree Appreciation Awards. This is its fourth year of the program.

Chosen from nominations submitted by the public were a magnificent oak, a mini-orchard and a transgender maple, and a mini-orchard of two plums and an apple.

“The appreciation program has really grown in four years, to the point where we had quite a few nominations this year, all of them great trees, and it was tough to select the final awardees,” said Val Cunningham, a member of the committee. “The idea behind this is to encourage our neighbors to value their trees and plant more of them, and we’re hoping it points up how important trees are—not just to homeowners but to the entire community too.”

Kate Lehmann nominated the large red maple that stands near the corner of her lot at 695 Nebraska Ave. and Victoria Street. “It’s such an asset to the corner,” she said, “and it shelters our little house from the elements in all seasons.”

Lehmann loves to share the tree with neighbors, those waiting for the bus and children who might like to climb it. She welcomes people to sit under its branches on the bench made from an old tree trunk—to rest and enjoy its shade and shelter and maybe contemplate the sidewalk poem stamped into the concrete nearby.

A friend nominated Audrey Greschner’s Dr. M. erlill magnolia. “This beautiful tree has been tended to with great care by Audrey,” wrote the friend. “It has been the main attraction of my spring for many years.”

In spring the tree is covered with huge white flowers before it leaves out. Greschner, who has lived at 800 Maryland Ave. for 50 years, received the tree as a Mother’s Day gift from her daughter Tammy nearly 20 years ago, but she didn’t know it was a tree. “I thought it was a shrub,” she said, “so I explained why she planted it in close to the house. People often come by and ask about her gorgeous tree when it’s in bloom.

The massive bur oak in LuAnn Hudson’s front yard has been there much longer than Hudson or her family. An arborist estimated the tree is about 200 years old, and reassured her that after a trim, it would be good to go for many more years. Hudson bought her house at 1614 Grotto St. nine years ago and recently had the arborist evaluate the tree since there was a split in the trunk that had been reinforced with cables some 15 to 20 years ago. She nominated the tree herself and says it was one of the reasons she bought the house.

In all the years she has lived there, the tree has never made acorns. “A striking maple attracted the attention of a neighbor who passes it on her way to work every morning. ‘It is so beautifully shaped and extremely lush,’” she wrote in her nomination. “In the spring its vivid chartreuse color illuminates the area. It looks as if there is a spotlight shining on it.”

The tree belongs to Jon and Mary Luchow, who have lived at 1300 Victoria St. for more than 20 years. They planted it in the front yard soon after they moved in, but can’t remember its specific variety.

“It was an experimental tree, bred down south,” Jon said, and the garden center he purchased it at wouldn’t guarantee it for that reason. They’ve trimmed the branches and trimmed it up, but otherwise it’s grown into its shape on its own.

David Arbeit nominated “Honey,” the honey locust in his nomination. “It has been the main attraction of my spring for many years. It is so beautifully shaped and extremely lush,” he wrote in his nomination.

Lovely poems and lovely trees

To celebrate the award-winning red maple at the corner of Nebraska Avenue and Victoria Street, Kate Lehmann invited neighbors to her front lawn for a Post-Tree party on July 17. Despite the 90-odd-degree weather, nearly 30 people showed up with tree-related poems in hand and one with bagpipes.

The party was inspired by the poems and lovely trees of all tree poems: “Trees” by Joyce Kilmer (“I think that I shall never see a poem as lovely as a tree.”)

Neighbors read work by poets such as Mary Oliver and e. e. cummings; the bagpipe player, Anne Kaplan, played a tune about a rowan tree; and they shared watermelon, lemonade and other snacks under the shade of the red maple.

The party was inspired by the maple’s District 10 Como Tree Appreciation Award and the Sidewalk Poem stamped into Lehmann’s walk. A Gentleman’s Invitation,” written by St. Paul poet laureate Carol Connolly, was placed on Lehmann’s sidewalk several years ago as part of Public Art St. Paul’s Sidewalk Poetry program.

But Lehmann says a garage sale she held earlier this summer was the real motivator for the party: “I enjoyed meeting neighbors who came by” and she wanted to have another opportunity to gather with them.— Kristal Lienick
Big ideas from 1

The Aspen Festival offered a bewildering array of possibilities, but for Landrum one speaker stood out. "Rye Barcott was the most awesome," he says. A former Marine who started a program called Carolina to Kibera, dedicated to improving living conditions in a region of Kenya, Barcott made such an impression that Landrum committed his words to memory: "Take a risk in service to others."

That mixture of idealism and daring-do held just the right appeal for the 17-year-old Eagle Scout. "I feel that the only way to really make a difference is to go out on a limb," he says.

And Landrum isn’t hesitant about giving an example of what he has in mind. "In my immediate neighborhood," he says of his home in Como Park, "there was a time when we had a lot of break-ins during the day. They were minor, but kind of scary." Neighbors banded together via an email list and a Facebook group, he says, "and we started a night watch group. We got together to preserve the safety of the community . . . and after a month, it was done. We’re still alert, but we haven’t had a break-in lately."

Kahn, who Landrum diplomatically describes as "among the top three" of his teachers at Como, attended the conference at her pupil’s invitation. She "prefers to let the students take the lead" in implementing the lessons of Aspen, she says, but admits to being surprised at how much relevance the festival had for her personal goals. "You get used to having problems in your world in education," she says. "It’s so hard to get the job done. It takes a lot of energy. [Before Aspen] I felt that I couldn’t approach a huge problem because it’s so big—I’m so busy. But [Aspen] forced me to state my passions. It gave me creative tools. The possibilities for me were reframed."

She marvels at the changes the festival produced in her mind-set. "When you’ve had a full life and you’re 59 years old [it’s remarkable] to have an experience [like this]."

Kahn was especially impressed by Arianna Huffington, founder of the left-ish Internet website, the Huffington Post. Huffington, who Kahn describes as "very powerful and wonderful to listen to," has developed a "third metric" by which to measure accomplishment. "Most people are measured by money and power," Kahn says. "She’s talking about [using] wisdom or well-being as a measure [of success]. She was awesome."

Landrum’s Aspen experience will influence his life choices for years to come, he says. He wants to apply to St. Olaf College in Northfield, with an eye to following a career in biomedicine, perhaps as a doctor, although "that could change." What he does know is "no matter what career I choose, I won’t just try to advance myself, but I’ll be helping my community. [Aspen] helped me rid my 17-year-old self-centered attitude."

Wanted: Your big ideas

Marshal Landrum and Kathryn Kahn want to know what inspires you, what concerns you and what changes you would like to make in your community.

If you are interested in sharing your ideas and want to learn more about the Big Ideas Festival, email bigideasfestival@gmail.com.

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Aviation pioneer’s sky-high career started here

By Roger Bergerson

Phoebe Fairgrave Omlie was the first woman to do a lot of things in American aviation: hold a federal pilot’s license, fly over the Rocky Mountains in a light plane, become a top government aeronautics official.

But on this July Sunday in 1921, she’s just 18-year-old Phoebe Fairgrave, standing on the wing of a biplane high over Snelling and Larpenteur avenues in Rose Township, ready to attempt a world parachute-jumping record for women.

While the crowd below at Curtiss Northwest Airport strained to see the spack in the sky and swelters of the League of Nations treaty.

On the morning of Sept. 9, four planes from Curtiss Northwest Airport provided an aerial salute to the president. A St. Paul Dispatch reporter rode along—with Vernon Omlie, as it turned out—as the planes swooped low over the Capitol building, where Wilson was addressing the Legislature.

Accounts vary in detail, but the common thread is that Fairgrave looked up from Mechanic Arts to see planes overhead and was inspired by the spectacle.

As a magazine writer depicted it, “The planes zoomed right over the high school building, so close that it seemed they must strike the roof. Phoebe Fairgrave was thrilled as she had never before seen. ‘I hadn’t given a thought to aviation until that day,’ she told me, ‘but suddenly, as I looked up from Mechanic Arts to see planes overhead and was inspired by the spectacle.’

The Aerial Adventures of Phoebe Fairgrave By Roger Bergerson

Fairgrave steps off the wing at 15,200 feet and begins her record-setting descent, her goggles icing over at one point. Twenty minutes later, she lands in wheat field a mile south of New Brighton.

“I wasn’t afraid to jump,” she tells the Minneapolis Tribune afterward, “but my hands were so cold that I hated to walk out on the wings. But I got out all right and fastened on my chute. Then I just let go and the wind carried me off. For the first 100 feet, I fell like a flash. Then the chute opened out and I began to swing back and forth through the air, as if I were in a swing. The motion, and the rapid change from icy cold to heat, sickened me at first. But at 12,000 feet I began to feel better.

“At 9,000 feet I struck an air pocket and dropped quickly again, but was soon out of it. The planes kept circling around me and made me feel less lonesome. ‘I dropped to the ground so easily that I wasn’t even shaken. It was just like jumping from a 10-foot wall. The planes couldn’t land, but an automobile picked me up and I rode back to the field.

The Fairgrave family lived near the Capitol when Phoebe was growing up and her childhood friends had fond memories of a little girl in pigtales.

“We used to play where Betheda H hospital is now,” Harold Dahlquist, a retired real estate salesman, told the St. Paul Pioneer Press in 1967. “The best place of all used to have his tennis court. Or we’d play on Cedar, which was paved with cobblestones and pretty rough. And Phoebe was right in the thick of things, if there was any kind of a game-going.”

Fairgrave attended Mechanic Arts High School, just southeast of the Capitol. She liked to write and act, in school plays and her flair for story telling and sense of drama served her well in the years ahead.

She also possessed a level of assertiveness and self-confidence that would lead her to challenge contemporary assumptions about a woman’s role in society.

At some point, Fairgrave became intrigued with aviation, and the transformational event seems to have been associated with the September 1919 visit to the Twin Cities by Pres. Woodrow Wilson, who was on a whirlwind tour to build popular support for ratification of the League of Nations treaty.

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As was the case with many aspiring pilots of the day, including Charles Lindbergh and Charles “Speed” Holman, Fairgrave started by doing stunts, first wing-walking and then parachute jumping. She eventually learned to fly and although not as well-known as her contemporary, Amelia Earhart, there is little question she was at least her equal as a pilot.

As one of her old St. Paul friends reminisced, “There was nothing that girl couldn’t do in an airplane.”

This article is adapted from a longer piece by Roger Bergerson in the current issue of Ramsey County History magazine. For a definitive biography, see Janan Sherman's Walking on Air, The Aerial Adventures of Phoebe Omlie, University Press of M I a s a p i, 2011.

Roger Bergerson is a local historian and a regular contributor to the Park Bugle.
Summer scenes

It’s summertime in the city and we captured a few of the activities in the area, just in case you missed all the fun. On page 11, from top: St. Paul Mayor Chris Coleman presents the Spirit of the Park Award to Kiki Gore, who accepted the award on behalf of herself and her husband, Warren, at the Fourth in the Park celebration at Langford Park July 4; Bernie King and the Guilty Pleasures perform at the July Park B4 Dark event in St. Anthony Park (there’s one more coming up on Aug. 19); and bagpipers join the July 4 parade down Como Avenue.

This page: The July 4 parade included hula-hoopers (top of page) and two patriotic dogs who joined the decorated bikes brigade. Below, left: Larissa Mae Swanberg, 5, works with Rosemarie Bermudez at the Kidcreate Studios booth at Lyngblomsten’s Mid-Summer Festival in Como Park. The festival kicked off the weekend-long Como Fest. Bottom right: Eileen O’Brien, Mary Foster and Lynette LaRue show off some In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre work at Lyngblomsten.

That dish of water at bottom right was found at the corner of Commonwealth and Carter avenues in St. Anthony Park on a very hot July evening. Whoever left that for the neighborhood canines has one big heart.
St. Anthony Park Area Seniors presents: 2013 Senior Cinema Series

“The Guilt Trip” 2-4 p.m.
Thursday, August 8th, at SAP Library

Starring: Barbra Streisand and Seth Rogen     Rating: PG13
As inventor Andy Brewster is about to embark on the road trip of a lifetime, a quick stop at his mom’s house turns into an unexpected cross-country voyage with her along for the ride.

For more information, call the SAP library at 651-642-0411 or visit www.sppl.org. 2245 Como Ave.
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Trees from 7

"It has aged gracefully," he said, and noted that it had been pruned to retain its arcing lower limbs, that reach out "like a dancer" and brush against their car roof as they pull into their driveway, "welcoming us back with a gentle caress."

The tree was bred to be podless, but last year, it grew long bean-like pods—lots of them. An arborist explained that male honey locusts can change genders if stressed by drought. "We always look forward to watching fresh leaves emerge each year," Arbeit said, "but now that we know that our transgander tree has an interesting life story to tell we can hardly wait for the next chapter."

Stefanie M. Cipolone nominated her husband and Jakob apple and two plums. They bought their house at 844 H Hoy Ave. Four years ago, attracted by the large, open yard. Since then they've been busy planting, adding life and productivity to the yard, as well as bringing in wildlife and creating a beautiful and relaxing view. One of Jakob's main goals, said Stefanie, "was to bring the joy of growing and picking fruits and vegetables to our children and the neighborhood children. We have gotten to enjoy fresh picked apples and are hopeful that this summer we will get to taste some delicious plums as well."

On a recent visit to the home, the M Cipolone children, Elinor and Louisa, were excited to find a tiny green plum growing on a low branch of one of the trees—so excited they almost couldn't wait to pick it.

Because of all the nominations this year, two more trees were recognized with honorable mentions—a red pine at 1476 Holton St. and another maple at 1419 Frankson Ave.

Sharon Shimomiyia is a writer who lives in the Como Park neighborhood.
Boy Scout Troop 17 sends three to jamboree in West Virginia

At 5 p.m. on July 12, nearly 235 Boy Scouts and Venturing Scouts and their adult leaders from Minnesota boarded seven coach buses at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds, bound for the National Boy Scout Jamboree in the mountains of West Virginia, near the town of Webelos.

Three members of Boy Scout Troop 17, which is sponsored by St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ, were in the group.

Scouts Ethan Helmer and Ben Schafer and Scoutmaster Jerry Wallace had been preparing for this adventure for nearly 18 months. Wallace can't recall any other boys from Troop 17 attending a National Jamboree in at least the 12 years that he has been scoutmaster.

On the way to West Virginia, the contingent stopped at the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago, the Indianapolis Motor Speedway and NCAA museums in Indianapolis, and the U.S. Air Force in Dayton, Ohio.

Ben Schafer said he was grateful to have had the opportunity to attend the event. "I have been on many adventures since joining Boy Scouts," he said, "but this [was] on a completely different level from what I've done before."

Helmer has been preparing for this National Jamboree for the past four years, the National Jamboree draws tens of thousands of Scouts, Venturers, volunteers and staff from all over the country. The 10-day event helps prepare youth to face and overcome challenges and gives them the opportunity to camp out, meet new friends, try high-adventure activities, learn new skills, work on merit badges and enjoy the outdoors.

There were also exhibits, entertainment and service projects Scouts completed in the nine counties surrounding the jamboree.

The first jamboree was held in 1937 and was attended by more than 27,000 Scouts who camped on the National Mall under the Washington Monument. Since then, 17 jamborees have been held. Helmer's grandfather was at the 1964 jamboree at Valley Forge, Penn.

"My grandfather ... was part of the Parade of States that walked across the stage before President Lyndon Johnson," Helmer said. "Grandpa carried a canoe representing Minnesota. He's the main reason I got interested in attending the jamboree."

The 2013 jamboree was the first to be held at the Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve, the jamboree's new permanent home in the wilderness of West Virginia. Some 30,000 Scout and Venturing participants and 7,000 staff and adult leaders attended.

Located in the New River Gorge region of West Virginia, the Summit sits on 10,600 acres of forested mountains adjacent to more than 70,000 acres of the New River Gorge National River area.

Boy Scout Troop 17 sends three to jamboree in West Virginia.

Murray student heads to Ireland for international Irish music competition

Fiona McKenna, a student at Murray Middle School and a resident of St. Anthony Park, will soon be headed to Derry, Northern Ireland, to compete in the 2013 Fleadh Cheoil in August.

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Fiona started playing tin whistle in first grade and later became interested in Irish language and song. She takes lessons from Norah Randell and Brian Miller, both professional musicians at the Center for Irish Music in St. Paul. The Center for Irish Music teaches students of all ages using the traditional method of learning by ear.

Several criteria, including rhythm, tempo, ornamentation and variation. For the song competition she will prepare two songs of lively tempo and two of a slower tempo. Judges will choose the first song, and Fiona will be allowed to choose the second one of the other tempo. Songs are performed in the traditional manner, focusing on the singer, without instrumental accompaniment.

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**Neighbors**

**Memories of Como Park — The Musical** debuts at pavilion in August

Bill Rasmussen is hoping his production “Memories of Como Park — The Musical” will evoke lifelong memories that people have about Como Regional Park. The show will be performed at Como Lakeside Pavilion, 1326 Lexington Avenue, on Friday and Saturday, Aug. 16 and 17 at 7 p.m. The show will feature songs and dance performed in scenes that will depict historical sites and activities in the park. Rasmussen, producer and director of Como Park Productions, has been producing, directing and performing in shows at the pavilion since 1999. The park has a significant meaning, for him, he says, because that’s where his wife, Ginny, took him on their first date. Tickets are $10 for adults and $8 for children 12 and under. Ticket reservations may be made with guaranteed seating, by calling Rasmussen at 651-489-3405.

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**Local photographer awarded regional arts council grant**

Local photographer awarded regional arts council grant

Paul Winger, whose prize-winning photograph “Windswept Trees” was featured in the February 2013 issue of thebugle.org, has received a $5,000 grant from the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council. Thirty-eight artists were awarded grants out of 376 applicants.

The grant will allow Winger to work on the Spanish web, silks, bungee trapeze and triple trapeze, as seen in the movie version of The Wizard of Oz. The trapeze can accommodate three performers and an additional triangle trapeze, which hangs below the house, creates an astonishing spectacle in Circus Juventas center ring.

Tickets for all 21 performances are available through Ticketworks at www.ticketworks.com or 612-343-3390 or by calling the Circus Juventas box office at 651-699-8229. All seats are reserved.

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**Local girl to perform in Circus Juventas’ summer show**

Local girl to perform in Circus Juventas’ summer show, Oz

Natalie Van Why, 18, daughter of Meg and Bob Van Why of St. Anthony Park, will perform on the aerial hoops under the big top Circus Juventas’ summer show, Oz, Aug. 1-18. Van Why has been performing with the group for six years and has worked on the Spanish web, silks, bungee trapeze and triple trapeze, as well as the hoops. This is her last show as she will be heading to Tennessee to attend Sewanee, the University of the South, in August.

Cirque du Soleil-inspired fantasy, Oz includes an emerald-green city guarded by zany gatekeepers, wicked witches, gravity-defying caged guards, aerial monkeys and a wizard to remind the audience that there is no place like home. This year a new piece of circus equipment has been constructed to replicate Dorothy’s Kansas house as seen in the movie version of The Wizard of Oz. The trapeze can accommodate three performers and an additional triangle trapeze, which hangs below the house, creates an astonishing spectacle in Circus Juventas center ring.

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**Theosophical Society events**

The Minneapolis Theosophical Society will host a vegetarian potluck on Sunday, Aug. 4, noon-2 p.m., at the band shell picnic area at Lake Harriet in Minneapolis. Look for the green balloons by the tables across the road from the band shell. Bring fruit, beverages and a vegetarian dish. No meat items, please. Call 651-235-6645 for more information.

On Monday, Aug. 12, the society will host a birthday party from 7 to 9 p.m. to celebrate the life and work of Russian mystic Helena Blavatsky at Spirit United Interface Church, 3204 Como Ave. S.E., Minneapolis. The event is open to the public. Call 651-235-6645 for more information.
Events

Venue information is listed at the end of the calendar. Send your events to calendar@parkbugle.org by Aug. 7 to be included in the September Bugle.

1 THURSDAY
Hillcrest Community Theater presents "Grease," Como Lakeside Pavilion, Aug. 1-3, 7 p.m.

4 SUNDAY
Minneapolis Theosophical Society vegetarian potluck, Lake Harriet band shell picnic area, noon-2 p.m. Call 651-235-6645 with questions.

6 TUESDAY
Summer Reading Series: "Mixed Nuts" (physical comedy and age-appropriate humor), St. Anthony Park Library, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

15 THURSDAY
"Martin Luther King & the March on Washington, A Musical Memory," Ramsey County Library, 7 p.m.

17 SATURDAY
Dakota Day at Gibbs Farm, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Cost is $8 for adults, $7 for seniors, $5 for children ages 3-16.

23 FRIDAY
Co-ed Drum Circle, Women's Drum Center, 6:30 p.m. All levels of experience welcome. $10 at the door.

25 SUNDAY
Sunday Afternoon Book Club, Micawber's Books, "The Stone Diaries" by Carol Shields, 2:30 p.m.

26 MONDAY
St. Anthony Park Senior Cinema Series, St. Anthony Park Library, "The Guilt Trip," 1-3 p.m.

VENUE INFORMATION:
Como Lakeside Pavilion, 1360 Lexington Parkway
Hillcrest Community Center, 1978 Ford Parkway, 651-695-3705
Luther Seminary Olson Campus Center, 1490 Fulham St.
Micawber's Bookstore, 2238 Carter Ave., 651-646-5300
Ramsey County Library Roseville, 2180 N. Hamline Ave.
Seal High Rise, 825 Seal St.

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The band is pleased to announce our Annual Como Park Concert Series at the beautiful Lakeside Pavilion. All Concerts start at 7 p.m. Every concert will feature different selections, so plan to attend all three!

July 31, A Family Concert
Featuring the classic children's tale Peter and the Wolf with story narration and free coloring sheets and crayons for the kids.

August 7, Something for Everyone
Featuring Tchaikowsky's Overture "1812" as well as selections from the Rodgers & Hammerstein musical OKLAHOMA!

August 14, A Salute to America
Featuring Aaron Copland's Lincoln Portrait with narration, including stirring words from Abraham Lincoln's most memorable speeches.

For more details, visit us at www.minstataband.org. The Minnesota State Band is funded in part by the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.
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Dorothea “Dody” or “Aunt Doodie” Bemrick, 83, died July 3. She was a proud feminist and 40-year resident of St. Anthony Park, a member of the Park Choir, Bell Ringers, Friends of the Library and St. Anthony Park Garden Club.

She was an avid water colorist, calligrapher, wood-turner, clogger, repairer and collector of antique clocks, maker of fiddles and hammer dulcimers and World-Champion Reader-of-Mystery-Books.

With a degree in biology, she taught her children to respect all insects (housing a June bug in her kitchen every summer), including centipedes. She engaged in decades-long war of wits with the squirrels, after which, having suffered numerous casualties on both sides, the squirrels emerged, victorious.

As a scientist working in Bill Bemrick’s lab, he thought that she was “the best dissector of mosquitoes” he’d ever seen, so he married her, despite that she came with five separate pieces of baggage: marrying her, despite that she came with five separate pieces of baggage: her husbands, her church (St. Benedict), a penny-pincher to the end, Bill deemed her “tighter than the bark on a tree.” And as a parting note, we were sure that Dody would like to say, “Dixie, buckhorn scum!”

A service was held July 30 at the Morningside Church of the Cremation Society of Minnesota.

Carolyn Canfield

Carolyn Suzanne (Olsom) Canfield, 80, died on July 17.

Carolyn was a graduate of Mankato University High School (1951) and St. Olaf College (1955). She married mathematician Roger Pederson and moved to New York City, Boston, Pittsburgh and Palo Alto, Calif., and then returned to the Twin Cities in 1974. Carolyn worked at Luther Seminary (1977-79) and was executive secretary to the president of Augsburg College (1980-97).

A one-time amateur actress, Carolyn will be remembered for her dramatic flair, her love of music and her joyful energy, always ready to “gussy-up” for a good time.

She was preceded in death by her husbands, Dale Canfield and Osgood Magnuson, and brother Douglas Olson. She is survived by her children, Deborah Pederson (Phil Dow) and Mark Pederson (Min Kim); four grandchildren; and brother, David Olson.

A memorial service was held July 23 at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church.

Janet Desmond

Janet C. (Mrs. Tom Thumb) Desmond, 97, died on July 2. Jan was born in Chicago on March 19, 1916, to Albert and Rose Fellan. She and her first husband, Charles E. Hansen, a high school chemist who married in 1939, started the Tom Thumb mini-doughnut business at the M Innnesota State Fair in 1959.

Charles was fatally injured in 1960 at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds in an accident involving the doughnut trailer. In 1962, Jan married John E. Desmond and together they continued to expand the business with two young men, Bob Everett and Rod Biltz, who literally became, their “sons.” John died in 2003.

Tom Thumb continues to flourish at State Fairs all over the country under the ownership and management of Bob Everett, Orin Gaul and Tom Bettenburg. Jan loved her husbands, her church (St. Edward’s Catholic Church), her neighbors, and many, many friends, traveling, winters in Bonita Springs, Fla., and her special “sons.” She leaves no surviving siblings or linear descendents.

Jan lived a miraculous life. After her mother died when she was 2, she was with her grandmother. At age 3, she was accidentally shot by a 14-year-old neighbor boy—“like to die,” the Chicago newspaper said. Jan survived and died at 97 with the bullet still in her.

A memorial service was held on July 28 at St. Edward’s Catholic Church in Bloomington.
Lives Lived from 16

Charles Nightingale, a retired University of Minnesota soil scientist, died July 16. Born on Aug. 7, 1921, Dr. Larson was raised on a family farm in Nebraska.

Known as “Mr. Tillage,” he was a steadfast champion of conservation tillage, a technique that effectively reduced soil erosion by leaving soil without inverting it. By allowing crop residue to remain on the surface, erosion can sometimes be reduced by more than 50 percent.

Larson worked tirelessly with national databases to help develop the means to accurately assess soil quality. His work is a cornerstone of soil quality and degradation studies that today fight to preserve soil around the world.

His infectious optimism, sharp mind, and easy laughter will be sorely missed by his family, friends, students and colleagues.

George Sumner

George L. Sumner, 81, of Green Valley, Ariz., died June 18. He was born in Mexico City, Mexico. At the age of 15, he and his older brother moved to Minnesota to continue his education at Murray High School. He later attended the University of Minnesota.

George is survived by his daughters, Michele Sumner of St. Louis, Mo., and Judith (Richard) Williams of Santa Barbara, Calif.; two grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

A vigil was held July 19, with a Catholic funeral mass July 20 at St. Cecilia’s Catholic Church.

Brenda Zimmermann

Brenda S. Zimmermann, 74, of Falcon Heights, died July 5. Brenda’s favorite hobbies were gardening, photography and reading.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Joseph. She is survived by her husband of 53 years, John Riedl; and their children Daniel; Rachel; and their families.

Missed by his family, friends, students, and colleagues.
Business News

C & E Lofts celebrates grand opening and ribbon-cutting
Exeter Realty Co. and Ironston Asset Fund of St. Paul held the grand opening of C & E Lofts University Avenue on June 20 in the former Chittenden & Eastman Building.

Built in 1917 as a furniture showroom and warehouse, the Chittenden & Eastman Co. took over the building in 1927. In the 1950s the building became known as the Chittenden & Eastman Building and was home to a furniture store, a mattress warehouse, offices and artist’s lofts.


Martial arts studio opens on Larpenteur Avenue
Martial arts teacher Jake Erling has opened THE ART martial arts studio at 3335 W. Larpenteur Ave., Falcon Heights. THE ART offers martial arts training for children and adults. The programs include a white-to-black belt course and basic self-defense and handling-bullies training.

To find out more, call 612-598-3065, email admin@theroommn.com or stop by THE ART Martial Arts Studio, in the lower level of the Falcon Crossing Mall.

“It still ends up with a per-person decrease, but it’s just a softer way of doing it,” Knox said. “It allows us a way to more fully accept the variation with the new people.”

In January, the City Council approved a recommendation that the administrator of South Como be allowed to secede from District 6 to District 10 effective January 2014.

“We are going to try and work with the City Council and mayor’s office to change this [funding] proposal,” said Ted Blank, district administrator. If that doesn’t happen, the district will have to look at cuts that include “relocating the office to a smaller setting and staff cuts. Trying to provide 25 percent less per head is really, really tough,” Blank said.

St. Anthony Park District 12’s funding will remain at $53,873.

Free mental health first aid course
The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) of Minnesota will hold a free mental health first aid training course in M innisota designed to teach the basic first aid skills needed to help a person who is experiencing a mental health problem or crisis.

The two-day, 12-hour course is aimed at improving mental health literacy. It will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 13, and Wednesday, Aug. 14, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Basilica of St. Mary, 88 N. 17th St.

Participants should bring a lunch. Participants will receive a course manual and certificate for completing the course. Registration is required. Contact NAMI Minnesota at 651-645-2648.

Dakota Day at Gibbs Farm celebrates first people
Dakota Day at Gibbs Farm will feature the museum’s new D akota hide tipi during Dakota Day on Saturday, Aug. 17, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Events throughout the day will include tours of the D akota summer lodge, seasonal tipi, crafts, games and free food.

Cost is $8 for adults, $7 for seniors 65 and older, and $5 for children ages 3-16. Admission is free for members of the Ramsey County Historical Society.

Call 651-646-8629 or visit rosh.com for more information.

St. Anthony Park artist’s pastels featured in solo show in Wabasha
Rebirth, a solo show of pastels by St. Anthony Park resident Linda Riddell-Baudry, will be on display at the River Junctions Arts Council Gallery in Wabasha through August. An opening reception will be held on Friday, Aug. 2, 5-7 p.m.

The gallery, located in the Chocolate Escape Shoppe, 152 N. 5th St., is open noon-4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays.

T. Mychael Rambo to perform on Washington, D.C., stage
T. Mychael Rambo and musicians Patty Lacy-Aiken and friends will present “M innnesota L ett Her King and the March on Washington—A Musical Memory” on Thursday, Aug. 15, at 7 p.m. at the Ramsey County Library, 2180 N., H amline Ave., Roseville.

The concert will mark the 50th anniversary of King’s March on Washington.

An affiliate producer and recruitment coordinator for the College of Liberal Arts, Theatre Arts and Dance at the University of Minnesota, Rambo is best known as a member of Penumbra Theatre Company and for his role as the Minnesota in Penumbra’s “Black Nativity.”

Rambo has performed in several Guthrie main stage productions, as well as at the Illusion Theatre, M innesota Opera, Ordway Center for the Performing Arts, Children’s Theatre, M ixed Blood Theatre, Park Square Theatre and H ey City Theatre.

This program is funded with money from M innesotas Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

Co-ed drum circle will be held in Vail Park
The Women’s Drum Center, 2242 W. University Ave., St. Paul, will host a co-ed drum circle on Friday, Aug. 23, at 6:30 p.m. Percussion, rhythm and freedom of expression will be explored.

All levels of experience are welcomed and encouraged.

Cost is $10 at the door. Register at www.womensdrumcenter.org.

Run or walk in Love 3K for Hamline Midway Library
Join the Hamline Midway Library on Saturday, Sept. 28, from 9 to 10 a.m. for the Love 3K, a fundraiser for the community library.

Registration is 8 a.m.

Run or walk at 3133 Hamline Avenue from the Hamline M idway Library, 1598 W. M innehaha Ave., to L exington and M innehaha streets and back. Early bird registration is $20 for adults and $10 children.

You can register at librarylove3k.webconnex.com/2013 or call Jean at 651-771-8421.

A song that will linger
Frank Steen (left) supplied a restored 150-year-old guitar at the St. Anthony Park Neighborhood Sing in July to mark the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg, in which M innesota soldiers played a key part in turning the battle to the Union’s advantage. Ann Reed (left) played the guitar as the group sang the Stephen Foster song “H ard Times Come Again No More,” a song popular during the Civil War. The next St. Anthony Park Neighborhood Sing will take place M onday, Aug. 19, on the second floor of the Lutheran Seminary Dixon Campus Center, 1490 F ulham St., at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome.
Classifieds

Send your ad to classifieds@parkbugle.org or P.O. Box 8126, St. Paul, MN 55108, or call Fariba Samikhah, 651-239-0321. Ads are $5 per line. Add a box or art for $10. Next deadline: Aug. 16.

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Garden
Meet Murray Middle School’s new principal

Murray principal Stacy Theien-Collins participated in the Fourth in the Park parade on July 4 in St. Anthony Park. Photo by Nancy Olsen

Who: Stacy Theien-Collins
Stats: Married for 19 years to Charles Collins; son, Jamal, a junior at Harding Senior High School this fall; two dogs, Fawna and Jazzy
Favorite pastimes: An avid reader and quilter. “In my off hours, my family and I love accessing the amazing resources in St. Paul; the Battle Creek area is a regular place we visit for walks with the dogs, as well as the Como Zoo, one of our favorite places. We also love to go to the movies.”
Favorite books: “I loved The Hobbit and the Tolkien trilogy, but the Harry Potter series is probably my all-time favorite. I can be found reading something every day. One of my favorite genres is mysteries.”
What she’s reading now: Kin by Christi Stewart-Brown. “This is a book my son and I are reading together. It is about a teenager who discovers he is adopted and goes to find his birth family.”
What she remembers from her own time in middle school: “The amazing teachers. I had great teachers who cared about whether or not I did well in school. This is what I need to successfully complete middle school.”
Advice she would give to her new middle-school students: “1. Rely on your teachers to support your success in school. . . . Murray teachers are dedicated, talented and are working hard in preparing for an amazing year at Murray.”
2. “Try something new. There are a lot of things students can try in middle school. I tried music and softball for the first time and I loved doing both and met friends I otherwise wouldn’t have met.”
3. “Be kind to everyone, respect difference and take a stand when others don’t.”

The Murray Junior High School community will experience two new changes this fall, as the school transitions to a grade 6-8 middle school and brings a new principal in from outside the district. Stacy T. Heien-Collins, who lives in St. Paul and has a son enrolled in St. Paul Public Schools, has been an administrator for the East Metro Integration District for several years.
A native of Brainerd, Minn., T. Heien-Collins began her education career teaching special education in North Dakota. She moved on to the St. Louis Park school district, where she worked in special education and as a dean for more than 18 years. She also spent time as an integration specialist with the Minnesota Department of Education. “I quickly decided that I missed more direct contact with students and teachers and became the AVID [Advancement Via Individual Determination] district director for Minneapolis Public Schools,” she said.
Theien-Collins chose the field of education because she has a passion for learning, she said. “I never remember wanting to do anything else; there wasn’t another choice that made any sense,” she said. “I believe that education is the foundation of success and learning is lifelong,” she said. — Kristal Leebrick