

Scandinavian Saga

A local scholar and a Swedish filmmaker explore the lives of Americans who are 'Pretty Much 100%' Scandinavian.

Page 3



Tee up

St. Paul's Como Golf Course will remain a golf course—for now.

Page 6



Aviation pioneer

Woman with many firsts in flight began her career right here.

Page 9

St. Anthony Park
Falcon Heights
Lauderdale
Como Park

Park Bugle

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August 2013

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 can 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 Ideas 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."

Cultivating Big Ideas to 8



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 business owners.

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 Vanbeuskom 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 (sapcc.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

C I T Y F I L E S

Como Park

District 10 goes on the road

The District 10 Como Community Council will move two upcoming meetings from the normal meeting place at the Historic Streetcar Station in Como Park to other locations in the neighborhood. The Tuesday, Aug. 20, meeting will be held at North Dale Rec Center, 1414 N. St. Albans St., 7-9 p.m. The Tuesday, Oct. 15, meeting will be held in the Hubert H. Humphrey Job Corps Center, 1480 N. Snelling Ave., in the lower level Bistro, 7-9 p.m. All meetings are open to the public.

O'Reilly Auto Parts presentation

O'Reilly Auto Parts has purchased the former Patrick's Bar site at 1318 W. Larpenteur Ave. and is planning to demolish the bar and relocate its Roseville store to the site. A representative from CMA Architects, the project lead, will give a presentation and answer questions about the proposed site plan at the Monday, Aug. 5, District 10 Land Use Committee meeting, which will be held at the Historic Streetcar Station at 7 p.m.

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 district's 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 Lexington Parkway and Larpenteur Avenue. The photos were contributed by residents Jennifer Otremba, Kerby Pettinelli, Nile Fellows, Linda Hinderscheit, Ted Blank and Kim Moon.

Hmong celebration debrief

The St. Paul Police Department and Lao Family of Minnesota will host a community meeting to debrief and discuss community concerns about this year's Hmong Freedom Celebration. The meeting will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 6, at 6 p.m. at the Historic Streetcar Station, 1224 N. Lexington 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, 2077 W. Larpenteur Ave.

2013 Elections

Falcon Heights has two at-large council member 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

Page, www.co.ramsey.mn.us, for information on filing or contact elections@co.ramsey.mn.us or 651-266-2171.

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, 7-9 p.m. at the Falcon Heights Council Chambers, 2077 W. Larpenteur Ave.

The event is part of a community-based fact-finding project led by the Advocates for Human Rights that seeks to monitor, document, and assess how fully Minnesota 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 Minnesota be more welcoming?

If you want to attend, contact Michelle Tesser, Human Rights Commission staff liaison, at michelle.tesser@falconheights.org or 651-792-7617.

Refreshments will be provided.

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., Curtiss Field; and Monday, Sept. 9, 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, address, phone number, approximate number of people attending, time your 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 at www.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 Roselawn Ave. Session 1, 9-10:30 a.m., is for ages 5-7. Session 2, 10:35-12:30 p.m., is for ages 8-10.

Sports Sampler Camp, for ages 6-8, will be held Monday-Thursday, Aug. 12-15, at Falcon Heights Elementary School, 1392 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, 8-11:45 a.m. at Community Park, 2050 Roselawn Ave.

The Great Adventure Camp, for ages 6-12, will be held Monday-Friday, Aug. 12-16, at Community Park, 2050 Roselawn Ave., Hours are noon-4 p.m.

Lacrosse Camp, for ages 6-11, will be held Monday-Friday, Aug. 5-9. Session 1, for ages 6-8, 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 Roselawn 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 Roselawn Ave.

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.

Spend a day in the park

Lauderdale's annual Day in the Park will be held Saturday, Aug. 17, 12-3 p.m. The event includes food, games and activities, as well as music by Lazy Does It (noon-1 p.m. and 2-3 p.m.), speakers (1-1:30 p.m.) and Puppet Wagon Show (1:30 p.m.).

Build community

If community-building events like Day in the Park are important to you, consider volunteering or joining the Lauderdale Park and Community Involvement Committee, which meets about seven times per year on Mondays at 6:30 p.m. For more information, contact Jim Bownik at City Hall 651-792-7656.

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 Land Use Committee meets on the first Thursday at 7 p.m. at SSA. The Energy Resilience Group meets at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday. Email erg@sapcc.org to find out the location each month. The Environment Committee meets at 7 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday at SSA.

Another Give & Take in the Creative Enterprise Zone

What do you know? What do you want to know? Give & Take uses these questions to launch an interactive evening of presentations, performances and surprises in the Creative Enterprise Zone. It's a way to celebrate creativity and connect with others in your community. Mark your calendars for Thursday, Aug. 15, 7 p.m., at the Lyric Lab at Carleton Place, 765 Hampden Ave. The event is free and open to the public.

Dunquin Irish band to perform at Alden Square on Aug. 21

Come to a potluck dinner and enjoy

music by Dunquin Irish Band at Alden Square, 1169 Gibbs Ave., on Wednesday, Aug. 21, at 6 p.m. Bring a dish to share. Plates, utensils and beverages will be provided.

Bike ride will celebrate Community Garden Day

A ride to visit St. Paul community

gardens to celebrate Community Garden day begins at 8 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 10, at the St. Anthony Park Community Garden, 2217 Robbins St., and will end at the same location. Bring water and any snacks you need.

Find out more by emailing lauren@sapcc.org.

National Night Out, Night to Unite Aug. 6

On Tuesday, Aug. 6, residents of St. Paul will celebrate National Night Out; residents of Falcon Heights and Lauderdale will celebrate Night to Unite. Both events are designed to get residents out of their homes to meet their neighbors and strengthen their communities. If you live in Falcon Heights or Lauderdale, contact your city hall to find out how to register for a block party. Call Falcon Heights City Hall at 651-792-7600 or Lauderdale City Hall at 651-792-7650. If you want to celebrate National Night Out in St. Anthony Park or Como Park, here are a few public events you can join if your own block has nothing planned. If you are hosting a party in District 10, stop by the District 10 office in the Como Historic Streetcar Station to pick up gift bags with neighborhood information and coupons to distribute at your party.

South St. Anthony National Night Out Potluck

6 p.m. to dark, Hampden Park, 993 Hampden Ave.

Bring food to share, plates and utensils, and a blanket or lawn chairs. Lemonade will be provided. All are welcome.

St. Anthony Park Community Band concert and ice cream social

7 p.m., Alden Square, 1169 Gibbs Ave.

867 Raymond Avenue between Ellis and Long avenues

Barbecue and potluck, 6:30 p.m.

Local police and fire department representatives will visit. Contact Ray Bryan, raycomp@visi.com, or Rene Flacksbarth, 651-645-0737, for more information.

Carter and Commonwealth avenues between Chelmsford and Raymond

Block party starts at 6 p.m. on Commonwealth between Chelmsford and Raymond. Tim Walker's rock band, Glass Half Full, will play at 8 p.m. to dusk at the corner of Chelmsford and Commonwealth.

American Legion, 1129 Arcade St.

Everyone is welcome. Call 651-771-8778 for more information.

District 10 will take hit with mayor's budget

By Kristal Leebrick

Frogtown isn't the only St. Paul neighborhood that would be hit hard by Mayor Chris Coleman's new funding strategy for the city's 17 neighborhood-based district councils.

The District 10 Como Community Council's funding is set to remain stagnant over the next three years—at \$51,873—but the city didn't take into account that in January 2014 the district will increase by nearly 4,000 residents when South Como residents leave District 6 and become part of District 10.

District 10's population will grow by one-third, from nearly 11,900 to nearly 15,800.

"We want the transition with the additional citizens being added to our district in 2014 to go as smoothly as possible," he said. But the lack of increase in funding to account for the population shift "seems to be a pretty big road block," said John Knox, District 10 board chair.

Shortly after the mayor's budget was released in July, Knox sent a letter to Coleman, Ward 4 council member Russ Stark and Ward 5 member Amy Brendmoen, asking the mayor to adjust the district's funding over three years.

"The magnitude of the population shift caused by this change is unprecedented and results in an inequitable funding outcome where Como Park residents will experience a 25 percent decrease in per-resident funding," Knox wrote.

At press time the mayor's office was trying to schedule a meeting with Knox.

According to Knox's letter, the mayor's budget will reduce District 10 per-resident funding by 25 percent, from \$4.35 to \$3.29 "in one fell swoop." That decrease will force the district to make significant cuts to its programs, Knox said.

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!"

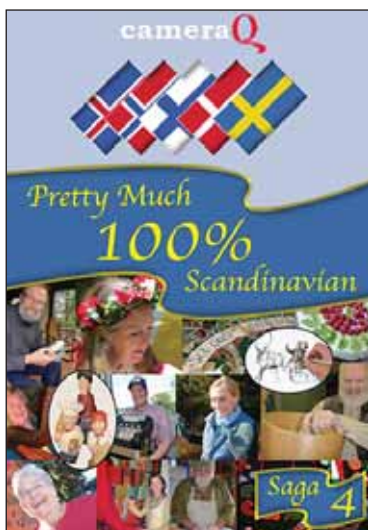
"It's a self-deprecating, nonoffensive humor that provides a perspective about Scandinavians," Beyer explained. "And it's a way to talk about personal awkwardness or embarrassment, for instance, that ends up in laughter and that's a redemption of sorts."

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



Bill Beyer in his St. Anthony Park home. Photo by Roger Bergerson



The cover for Saga Four, the film that premieres this fall

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.

No yoke to 6

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 miniature LEGO city created by St. Anthony Park residents Jennifer Heaton and Nathan Stohlmann.

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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**We have an early
deadline next month:
Aug. 7. The paper
will be published
on Aug. 27.**

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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C O M M E N T A R Y

The death of a boy: Trayvon Martin

By Kao Kalia Yang

When my family first arrived in America, we lived in the projects of St. Paul. There weren't many white families. By the time we came, the late 1980s, the McDonough Housing Project where we lived and Mount Airy Housing Project where many of our 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 Mount Airy Housing Project. It was a hot summer day. The playground was covered in a soft, hot tar-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 to us on the platform. I turned to him. He started speaking in English.

We'd just gotten to America. I couldn't understand a word of what he was saying. I shrugged my shoulders at him 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 on her face. She scrambled farther away from us. I felt the skin of my toe breaking.

I started kicking at the boy's head with my other foot. At first, I didn't want to hurt him. I just wanted him to let go. I started out fairly gentle, but the force of my foot grew with the sinking of his teeth into my toe.

All the while, I was calling for help. I was yelling, "Dawb, Dawb, Dawb!"

My hope was my older sister. She has always been my first hope.

True to our life together, Dawb came running out of my aunt's house, limping a little, but moving fast. She started yelling in English, "Stop! Stop! Stop!"

The boy let go at the sound of Dawb's voice. He took one look at her, although she was only an inch taller than I, there must have been a look in her eyes that scared him more than I did because he ran.

By the time Dawb reached me, my toe was red with blood. I was sitting on the platform, looking at my toe, crying. She asked what happened and I told her. She shook her head, said, "You get into so much trouble," and helped me up. My little cousin and Dawb held either sides of my hand as we made our way to the aunt's house. The adults cleaned the blood and my mother bandaged my toe for me.

It was the summer of 1989, hot and humid. Dawb and I were walking up a hill in the McDonough Housing Project, on our way home from a short visit to an uncle's house. We were pulling a small cart with a large Hmong cucumber wrapped in a baby's blanket. We didn't have dolls. Our father had drawn a baby's face onto one end of the cucumber. The cucumber was our baby.

The cart we were pulling was a garage sale purchase. Its old wheels weren't cooperating on the climb. The hill was high. We were going slowly. 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 by a year or so. They were almost the same height. He was all out of breath when he caught up with us on our halt.

He said, "Can I help you two?"

Dawb said, "No. We got this."

He said, "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 whole thing.

At Murray Junior High School there was a black boy who wore glasses and belts. He tucked his shirts in. He carried a red backpack. We weren't friends but we were 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 lab 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. I remember 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 Ban Vinai Refugee Camp when I was a kid. He listened. At 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 where my classmate is or what he is doing. Then, I was too 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 share 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 who 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 know that more than 60 percent of people in prison are now racial and ethnic minorities, and that for black males in their 30s, one in every 10 is in prison or jail on any given day. Minnesota has the largest disparity between black and white imprisonment rates of any state in the nation.

In Minneapolis, police data show that minorities are stopped more frequently than whites. While minorities make up only 35 percent of the population, we comprise over half of the drivers stopped by police. African-Americans account for a significant percentage of the minority stops—almost 40 percent—even though African-Americans are less than 20 percent of the population in the city.

I live in Minneapolis. I live in Minnesota. I grew up in St. Paul. This is my home. This is the home I share with the little black boy who bit my foot in the Mount Airy Housing Project, with the black boy who gave Dawb her first kiss in the McDonough Housing Project, with my classmate at Murray—who told me at the age of 13, ". . . when a black boy dies, no one really cares." I didn't know to tell him then, but I care.

I care that Trayvon Martin is dead. I care that so many of the men 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 men 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 Season, a cooperative op-ed page that features a number of local writers and artists. You can read more at www.opinseason.com.

L E T T E R S

Update from Sen. John Marty

Thank you to residents of Senate District 66 for the opportunity to represent you in the Minnesota Senate. I have appreciated hearing from many of you during the last few months. Although I was disappointed in some of the outcomes, there were many significant gains that will make Minnesota a better state.

We have prepared a report on the 2013 legislative session that you can access online, or I would be pleased to mail you a copy if you contact my office.

To view a copy on line, please go to my Senate web page at sen.johnmarty.org and click on the "Newsletter" tab. If you would like to have us mail you a copy, please call my office, 651-296-5645. Also,

please let us know if you would like to be added to our email list (for two or three updates a year).

Again, please let me know whenever there is an issue of concern to you.

*Sen. John Marty
323 Capitol
St Paul, MN 55155
651-296-5645*

COMMENTARY

Fathers and sons

By Dave Healy

Parents 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 settled convictions, one of which was that I should throw overhand. I don't know whether he imparted similar advice to my two younger brothers, so I'm not sure whether his admonitions reflected a general philosophy or were tailored to what he saw as my likely future in the game.

My father did not practice what he preached. He was a confirmed sidewinder. I never challenged that inconsistency; instead, I strove manfully to bring my throws over the top. But I couldn't seem to master that delivery. In his presence, I would go through the motions of throwing overhand, with usually unimpressive results. Playing catch with my friends, though, I reverted to what seemed a much more natural sidearm and with which I was considerably more accurate. In our backyard whiffleball games, I even developed a wicked submarine pitch that my brother Paul sought to ban, claiming it was unhittable.

When I started playing organized baseball through Como Youth, I was put at third base. My beleaguered coach didn't have the luxury of worrying about the throwing motion of individual players. If you could catch more than half the ground balls he hit, you

qualified as an infielder, and as long as your pegs to first were generally on target, that was good enough. Later, I would try my hand at pitching, where there were plenty of sidearm role models. Eventually, as I grew taller and my pitching failed to distinguish itself, I gravitated to first base.

As a pitcher and infielder, I got along OK with a sidearm. When I occasionally ventured to the outfield, however, the limitations of that motion were abundantly apparent. I couldn't throw very far, and everything tailed away from my target. So before long, I'd be sent back to first. Perhaps my father had undergone a similar experience. Maybe he wished a different fate for his son.

My father didn't play organized baseball in school. His experience with the game was confined to sandlot ball in River Falls, Wis., where he grew up. In his high school, most boys played two or three sports, but his spring sport was track and field. I don't know what all factored into that decision. It could have been as simple as liking the track coach better than the baseball coach. In any event, his adult relationship with baseball was almost exclusively as a spectator of his sons and of the professional teams in our area—first the St. Paul Saints and Minneapolis Millers, and later the Minnesota Twins.

As my Little League career progressed, my father gave up on converting my sidearm to an overhand, and the year he coached my team—when I mostly held down the initial sack, with an occasional relief stint on the mound—he directed his individual instruction elsewhere. Later, as a fan at my games, he was content to cheer me on, sharing my joy in victory, commiserating in defeat.

Once, though, he was forced out of the spectator's seat. I was playing for the Como Orioles, and the umpire didn't show up. This was not an unprecedented development. Most of the umpires in our league were high school kids, who weren't always very reliable. The game must

go on, though, and in such instances someone from the crowd was drafted to fill in. ("Crowd" is a misnomer; we seldom had more than a couple of dozen spectators, mostly parents.) On this occasion, my dad got the nod. He took his position behind the pitcher, which is where the lone ump always stood in our games.

The game proceeded uneventfully. There were a couple of close calls on the bases, but my father's authoritative voice and presence (he was 6 feet 8 inches and more than 250 pounds) forestalled any challenges from players, coaches or fans. I was playing first, where I handled the only grounder hit to me and made a nice pickup on a low throw from Tom Wandemacher at short. At the plate, I walked my first two times up.

Our team fell behind, and we came to our last at-bats trailing by one. I was well down in the order and didn't figure I'd be up again, but we sandwiched a couple of singles and a walk between two pop-ups, and I came to the plate with the bases loaded. I was hoping for my third walk, to force in a run and tie things up. I looked at a strike, took two

pitches outside, then waved ineffectually at a fastball. Another ball filled the count. The stage was set for some kind of drama. A hit would probably score two and win the game. A walk would bring in one and keep us alive. An out would end the game. I looked over the pitcher at my dad, but his face told me nothing. The pitcher, working from a windup, reared and delivered a fastball. I watched it go by.

There is an auditory phenomenon that would seem to defy the laws of physics. One might think that an absence of sound is just that, and that silence admits of no degrees. But in fact, it is not linguistically incorrect to ascribe depth to silence. That day, a silence descended on the field at Como 3 that was voluminous, capacious, enveloping. It was the silence of collective anticipation. It was like the hush that falls over a theater audience when the lights have dimmed, just before the curtain parts. Into that silence my father hurled his voice, and the two words he spoke rang with as much authority and doom as the most seasoned umpire could have summoned: "Strike three!"

I have learned many things from my father. Some have been the outcome of overt instruction or explanation. 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 strike is a strike, no matter who's in the batter's box or who's calling the game.

I have learned other important things over the years, one of which is the reality of grace. Grace is unmerited favor, and it is perhaps the greatest gift we can receive. But grace must always be unexpected and undeserved. There is a time to be soft 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 Healy's book Baseball Dreams. Go to davidjameshealy.wordpress.com to learn more.

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

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You can support the Bugle this month by visiting Sunrise Banks' Park Perks in the lobby at 2300 Como Ave. The bank will donate the coffee bar's August sales to the newspaper.

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 club's future. The request for

Capital Improvement Budget funding was denied, however, taking that plan off the table for the time being, according to Brad Meyer, public service manager at St. Paul Parks and Recreation.

"At Como we are just focused on trying to improve that course," he said.

What those improvements might look like are still up for debate, but changes look imminent. The number of rounds at all four city courses is down by more than 20 percent in the last 10 years, Meyer said.

"The participation level is down," 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 tee time (now) than it was several years ago."

The season's cold and soggy start offered little assurance, either. 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 looking 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 courses receive 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 compounding these 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.

"Ultimately we have to get back to the black. That's the bottom line," Meyer said.

The city is looking at a variety of ways to make that happen without shutting courses down altogether. One option officials seem to like is contracting out certain course operations to help alleviate some of the liability. Ramsey County has a similar structure for its public golf courses already in place.

Promotions and marketing have also been central in the fight to keep city golf courses viable. Ads in newspapers, on the radio and television didn't seem to solve the problem, however.

Recently marketing efforts are shifting toward more low-cost options like social media, online coupons and mobile-booking options.

Dapper 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 dollars 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 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

most underperforming course, according to the Performance Plan.

Part of this may be due to the shorter season it typically experiences because of the undulating terrain, Dapper says. With steep hills and dales, snow doesn't melt as fast in the spring, nor does frost in the fall. This leads to a more punctuated season than it's flatter and more open cousins.

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

What this 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.

As for now, a soggy spring has translated into lush green fairways. The course is in excellent shape and getting a fair amount of play, Dapper said. It just needs more of it.

"We kind of think of Como as a hidden gem," he added. The trick, then, is to uncover the diamond in the rough.

Kyle Mianulli is a freelance journalist in the Twin Cities.

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No yoke from 3

"Pretty Much 100% seems to us to capture how many, especially in the Upper Midwest and Pacific Northwest, are able to identify strongly with roots in one of the five Scandinavian countries while knowing that as Americans they are not quite Scandinavians—but almost," Beyer said.

"My role has been to find the interviewees and give some shape to these stories," he added. "It's a tremendous amount of fun working with Stefan, seeing what he captures with the camera and how he then works his magic, transforming it into something worth watching. That's not always easy because Scandinavians are very skilled at silence."

"We've been on the road a lot showing the films, everywhere from Chicago to Minot," Beyer noted. "And there are Swedish versions which we have shown in that country. We wondered if the jokes would translate. No problem, as it turned out."

Saga Three, shown on Twin Cities Public Television this past June, examines *Life and Work in the New Land*. It's a tribute to the work Scandinavians did when they first arrived in America—farming, logging, church service, domestic work—and what they do now.

Beyer and Quinl are in the process of completing Saga Four—no additional episodes are planned—which will premiere on Oct. 6 at the Swedish American

Institute. The film focuses on arts and crafts, the values of Scandinavian design that show up in Danish furniture, Finnish glass and even Swedish pop music.

When asked for a favorite joke from the series, Beyer tells of the time Ole and Sven were building a house:

Sven notices that Ole is throwing away almost every other nail he picks out of the carpenter apron around his waist.

"Ole," Sven says, "What are you doing? You're throwing half the nails away."

"Ja, Sven, half of them have the heads on the wrong end."

"Ole, you fool! Those are for the other side of the house."

Clips of the first three sagas can be viewed at www.cameraq.com. DVDs of the episodes are available at Micawber's, 2238 Carter Ave.; the American Swedish Institute, 2600 Park Ave. S., Minneapolis, www.asimn.org; and Ingebreetsen's Scandinavian Gifts, 1601 E. Lake St., Minneapolis, www.ingebreetsens.com, and on the web at www.cameraq.com.

Crime watch

A number of area residents have reported to their neighbors that their cars have been broken into and that items have been taken from their locked and unlocked garages. But there are few reported incidents on the St. Paul Police Department crime report website. If you want to curb crime in your neighborhood, report all incidents to the police and follow these tips from the St. Paul Police Department:

Don't leave objects of value in plain view. Consider covering open windows in garages. Place valuables in car trunk before you reach your destination (thieves may be watching).

Lock car doors when you are away. Close garage doors and lock them.

Provide extra security for vulnerable targets (such as bicycles and power tools) inside the garage.

Alert police to suspicious people loitering in alleys, near cars or garages.

Record serial numbers of purchased items to aid in their recovery, in the event that they are stolen.

To stay updated to crimes committed in your area, go to www.parkbugle.org and click on "Crime Reports" at the bottom of the page. That will lead you to links for the St. Paul Police Department's district crime reports and the St. Anthony Police Department's reports for the cities of Falcon Heights and Lauderdale.

Como Tree Appreciation Awards

Winners include a mighty oak, a mini-orchard and a transgender maple.

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 fourth year of the program.

Chosen from nominations submitted by the public were a magnolia, bur oak, honey locust, two maples, 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 895 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 walking or 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. Merrill 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 leafs 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, to explain why she planted it so 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 house. 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 Lacho, 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 thinned 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 front yard. He and his wife, Susan Jane Cheney, moved into their house at 1384 E. Como Blvd. nearly 20 years ago. The tree, more than 40 years old, provides both shade and "wonderfully filtered light through its open lacy canopy," David wrote in his nomination.

Trees to 12

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 Poet-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 event kicked off with 10-year-old Simon Harrison-Michaels reading what Lehmann calls "the tree poem 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 bagpiper, 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 Leebrick*



Kate Lehmann and her award-winning red maple. Photo by Kristal Leebrick

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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 be just trying to advance myself, but I’ll be helping my community. [Aspen] helped me get rid of my 17-year-old self-centered attitude.”

Asked about a favorite experience at the Aspen festival, Landrum—who is an enthusiastic Nordic skier—bypassed mention of the famous faces and the inspiring lectures. Instead he talked about an experience that might also provide an inadvertent metaphor for what it feels like to be a young man on the brink of adult achievement.

“The best thing at Aspen,” he says, “was going up on the gondola to the top of the mountain. I could see the view.”

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

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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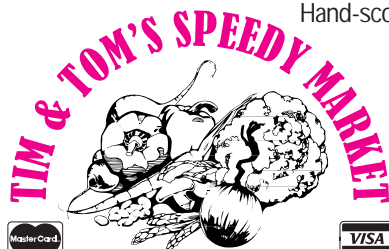
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Aviation pioneer's sky-high career started here

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 strains to see the speck in the sky and swelters in the nearly 100-degree heat, Fairgrave is startled by how cold it is at nearly 3 miles of altitude.

Weighing little more than 90 pounds and barely 5 feet tall, she's wearing a helmet and goggles, an aviator's coat, a silk shirt, riding breeches and basketball shoes with suction soles to help grip the wing. Fairgrave has a partially inflated inner tube wrapped around her middle in case she lands in water, because she doesn't know how to swim.

At the controls of the big, red Curtiss Oriole is ruggedly handsome Vernon Omlie, who in less than a year will become her husband. It has taken the plane more than an hour to make the climb. A companion ship monitors the situation.

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 a 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 state Capitol when Phoebe was growing up and her childhood friends had fond memories of a little girl in pigtails.

"We used to play where Bethesda Hospital is now," Harold Dahlquist, a retired real estate salesman told the St. Paul Pioneer Press in 1967. "The best place of all though, was the corner of Sherburne and Cedar, where Gov. Merriam 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 storytelling 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



Wing-walking over Rose Township. Photos courtesy of Phoebe Omlie Collection, Memphis, Tenn. Public Library



Phoebe, wearing her trusty inner tube, with pilot Vernon Omlie.

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 been before. 'I hadn't given a thought to aviation until that day,' she told me, 'but suddenly, as I watched those planes, I wanted to fly.'"

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 Janann Sherman's Walking on Air, The Aerial Adventures of Phoebe Omlie, University Press of Mississippi, 2011.

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

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SUM MER



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 Lynblomsten'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 Lynngblomsten.

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.





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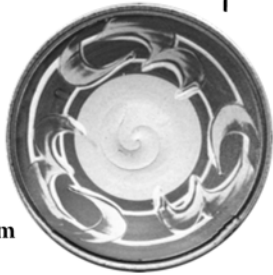
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Trees from 7

"It has aged gracefully," he said, and noted that it had been pruned to retain its arching 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 transgender tree has an interesting life story to tell we can hardly wait for the next chapter."

Stefanie McAlpine nominated her husband Jake's apple and two plums. They bought their house at 844 Hoyt 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 Jake'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 McAlpine 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 Shinomiya is a writer who lives in the Como Park neighborhood.



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To add your church to the directory, contact Genevieve Plagens at 651-325-7189 or genevieve@parkbugle.org.



Neighbors



Attending the 2013 Boy Scout jamboree are, from left, Troop 17 Scoutmaster Jerry Wallace and Scouts Ethan Helmer and Ben Schafer.

Boy Scout Troop 17 sends three to jamboree in West Virginia

At 5 a.m. on July 12, nearly 225 Boy Scouts and Venturing Scouts and their adult leaders from Minnesota's Northern Star Council 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 West Hope.

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 Museum of 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."

Held once every 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.

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 Aug. 11-18.

Pronounced "flah key-ohl," this is the world traditional Irish music competition, attracting musicians from around the globe. Fiona placed first in English language song and second in tin whistle in the 12- to 15-year-old category at the Midwest Fleadh in St. Louis, Mo., in May. The top two competitors from each category qualify for the Fleadh Cheoil in August. With just two regional fleadhs in the United States, Fiona will be one of up to four American musicians in each category.

Fiona will play one reel and one



Fiona McKenna

jig in the tin-whistle competition. Judges will score her based upon

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.

Fiona started playing tin whistle in first grade and later became interested in English and Irish language song. She takes lessons from Norah Rendell 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.

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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.



Natalie Van Why

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.

A Cirque du Soleil-inspired fantasy, *Oz* includes an emerald-green city guarded by zany gatekeepers, wicked witches, gravity-defying castle 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.

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.

An extra performance has been added to accommodate the demand for tickets. Circus Juventas is located at 1270 Montreal Ave., St. Paul. For more information go to www.circusjuventas.org.

Local photographer awarded regional arts council grant

Paul Winger, whose prize-winning photograph “Windswept Trees” was featured in the February 2013 issue of the Bugle, 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 engage in a five-day one-to-one workshop with fellow St. Anthony Park resident Douglas Beasley, a noted photographer and educator, at Beasley's Trade River Retreat Center near Grantsburg, Wis.

Winger, a semi-professional nature and landscape photographer, frequently uses local areas for photo outings, including Como Park, the Horticultural Building Gardens on the State Fairgrounds and the University of Minnesota Department of Horticultural Science Display and Trial Garden on the St. Paul campus.

You can see Winger's and Beasley's work on their websites, paulwinger.zenfolio.com and douglasbeasley.com. Winger's work is also on display at Legacy Art and Gifts, 1209 Grand Ave., St. Paul.

'Grease' at Como Pavilion

Hillcrest Recreation Center Community Theater will present “Grease” at the Como Lakeside Pavilion, 1360 Lexington Parkway, Aug. 1, 2 and 3 at 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for children 12 and younger.

Tickets may be purchased during business hours at Hillcrest Recreation Center, 1978 Ford Parkway, or beginning one hour before show time at the pavilion.

For more information, call Hillcrest Recreation Center at 651-695-3706.

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.

AUGUST

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: RADZOO (Reptile and Amphibian Discovery Zoo), St. Anthony Park Library, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

7 WEDNESDAY

Preschool Mandarin Chinese Storytime, every Wednesday, St. Anthony Park Library, 3-3:45 p.m.

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

St. Anthony Park Book Club, St. Anthony Park Library, "Beautiful Ruins" by Jess Walter, 6:30-8 p.m.

8 THURSDAY

St. Anthony Park Senior Cinema

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

11 SUNDAY

Agent Fidelio: A Picnic Operetta, Falcon Heights Community Garden, 4 p.m., www.mixedprecipitation.org

13 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.

Park B4 Dark, Como Avenue, Carter to Doswell, 5-8 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.

19 MONDAY

Neighborhood sing, second floor, Olson Campus Center, 7 p.m.

20 TUESDAY

Summer Reading Series, Magician Matt Dunn, St. Anthony Park Library, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

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.

BLOCK NURSE EXERCISE

St. Anthony Park Area Seniors block nurse exercise classes meet at these times and places:

Tuesdays and Fridays, St. Anthony Park Library, 3-4 p.m.

Mondays and Thursdays, Seal High Rise, 12:30-1:30 p.m.

Wednesdays, SAP United Methodist Church, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

VENUE INFORMATION:

Como Lakeside Pavilion, 1360 Lexington Parkway

Hillcrest Community Center, 1978 Ford Parkway, 651-695-3706

Luther Seminary Olson Campus Center, 1490 Fulham St.

Micawber's Bookstore, 2238 Carter Ave., 651-646-5506

Ramsey County Library Roseville, 2180 N. Hamline Ave.

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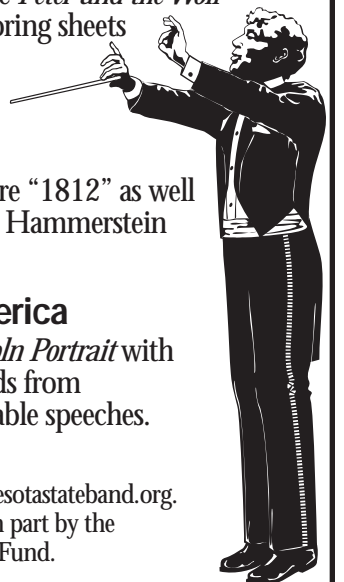
August 7 Something for Everyone

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August 14, A Salute to America

Featuring Aaron Copland's *Lincoln Portrait* with narration, including stirring words from Abraham Lincoln's most memorable speeches.

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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@gmail.com or call 651-644-1650.*

Kristina Bauman

Kristina "Tina" Bauman, 40, died suddenly on June 8. She is survived by her parents, Gary and Ase Bauman, and sisters, Sue (Craig) Marusic and Heidi Bauman.

Her memorial service was held June 21 at Roseville Covenant Church.

Dorothea Bemrick

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), excluding centipedes. She engaged in a 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: Anthony ("Quint") Hankel, Matthew Hankel, Stephanie (Ottoson), Katie (Novak) and

Theresa Hankel. They then added to the collection: Patrick (Bemrick).

A 1947 graduate of Minnesota's first girls' school, St. Joseph's Academy, she was also a "Benny," graduating in 1951 from the College of St. Benedict. A penny-pincher to the end, Bill deemed her "tighter than the bark on a tree." And as a parting note, we're sure that Dody would like to say, "Die, buckthorn scum!!!"

A service was held July 10 at the Minneapolis Chapel of the Cremation Society of Minnesota.

Carolyn Canfield

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

Carolyn was a graduate of Marshall University High (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 (1980-1997).

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 Feilen. She and her first husband, Charles E. Hansen, a high school classmate who she married in 1939, started the Tom Thumb mini-doughnut business at the Minnesota State Fair in 1950.

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 Beltz, 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 friends, traveling, winters in Bonita Springs, Fla., and her special "sons." She leaves no surviving siblings or lineal descendants.

Jan lived a miraculous life. After her mother died when she was 2, she lived with her grandmother. At age 6 she was accidentally shot by a 14-year-old neighbor boy—"likely 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 16 at St. Edward's Catholic Church in Bloomington.

Richard Johnson

Richard W. Johnson, 93, of Falcon Heights, died peacefully on June 24. He was raised in Winnetka, Ill., and graduated from New Trier High School. He attended Northwestern University and Chicago University and received a degree in math. A World War II veteran, he served in the Air Force Reserves for 25 years, reaching the rank of major.

Dick worked in sales and service as the owner of Midwest Heating and Cooling for more than 40 years. He was an avid fisherman, piano player, golfer and photographer, and was admired for his compassion, loving nature and his ability to spin a good Gitche Gumee tale around the campfire at the Aitkin cabin.

He loved to sing, whistle, tell stories and had a great zest for life. Everyone loved him and he will be missed.

He was preceded in death by his siblings, Gil, Bo and Lois, and his daughter Linda. Dick is survived by his wife of 68 years, Mary Jane (George); son, Kirk (Marilyn); three daughters, Alicia Andre (Roger), Beth Johnson and Gail Rudberg (Tom); eight grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

The family thanks the Wellington staff for its quality of care and numerous friends who made his last years comfortable and enjoyable.

A memorial service honoring Dick's life will be held Saturday, Aug. 24, at 11 a.m. at Falcon Heights United Church of Christ.

William Larson

Dr. William E. Larson, of Shoreview,

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Lives Lived from 16

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 reduces soil erosion by loosening 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 to develop measures for soil quality and degradation aided the fight to preserve soil around the world.

His work influenced national policies guiding the use of crop residue to enhance soil conservation.

Dr. Larson received his bachelor's and master's degrees in agronomy in 1944 and 1946 from the University of Nebraska, then went on to earn a doctorate in soil science in 1949 from Iowa State University.

He was on the faculty at Iowa State in 1949 as an assistant professor. He then joined the Agricultural Research Service, United States Department of Agriculture, at Montana State University in Bozeman from 1950 to 1954. He returned to Iowa State in 1954 until 1967, taking a one-year leave as a Senior Fulbright Scholar in 1965-1966 to work at the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization Lab in Australia.

He moved to the University of Minnesota in 1967 and served as research leader of the ARS Soil Management Unit in St. Paul until 1982 and then as head of the Department of Soil Science from 1982 until he retired in 1989.

He received numerous awards and recognitions, including the Siehl Prize for Excellence in Agriculture from the U in 1994. In 2001, he was inducted into the Science Hall of Fame of the Agricultural Research Service, USDA.

He is survived by his wife, Ruthelaine, and four children, Larry, Stephen, Suzanne and Kathy Nesler, and seven grandchildren. The couple lived in Shoreview for 46 years.

Charles Nightingale

Charles E. Nightingale, 68, Como

Park, died July 9, in a house fire. He was a Navy veteran. While in the Navy, he survived a near-fatal training accident at Camp Lejeune before he was slated to head to Vietnam.

An elaborate rock garden made up Nightingale's front yard, and he was an avid book collector. Neighbors remember him as a conversationalist.

He is survived by three aunts and several cousins. Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated July 16 at Holy Childhood Catholic Church.

Betty Lou Patsche

Betty Lou (Jones) Patsche, 88, died July 16.

Betty Lou was a 1947 graduate of Hamline University and worked as a teacher's aide at Como Park Elementary School. She enjoyed creating and judging flower arrangements with the Minnesota Horticultural Society and Federated Garden Club.

She was a member of St. Anthony Park Order of the Eastern Star 212.

She is survived by her husband of nearly 64 years, Gilbert; children, Ronald (Cyndy), David (Carol) Patsche and Barbara (Donald) Orr; and sister, Virginia MacArthur.

Her funeral was held July 20 at Holcomb-Henry-Boom-Purcell Funeral Home in Shoreview, with interment at Lakeside Cemetery, Fairmont, Minn.

Allen Paulson

Allen Jay Paulson, 84, of Rochester, died June 28. Allen was born in Minneapolis and was raised in Wisconsin and St. Anthony Park, where he graduated from Murray High School. He then attended the University of Minnesota, where he studied civil engineering.

Mass of Christian burial was celebrated July 3 at Pax Christi Catholic Church in Rochester.

John Riedl

John Thomas Riedl, 51, of Falcon Heights, died July 15. John was a McKnight Distinguished Professor of Computer Science at the University of Minnesota and a pioneer in the field of recommender systems and online social networks.

He loved to share his enthusiasm for windsurfing, squash, reading and life in general with

everyone he met.

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

John is mourned by his wife, Maureen; children: Eric, Karen (Anthony) Parrish and Kevin; parents, John and Mary; siblings, Ann, Jim, Steve and Dan; parents-in-law; brothers-in-law; and sisters-in-law.

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

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 their 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 granddaughters; and final joy of his life, Bessie "Billie" Rohrich. He was preceded in death by Sally Sumner, his wife of 49 years, and his brother, Philip Sumner Jr.

Colleen Wirrer

Colleen H. (Engst) Wirrer, died July 8. She was preceded in death by her husband, Joseph. She is survived by three children, Barbara, Kathleen and Jeffrey; a sister-in-law, Pat; six grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated July 12 at Holy Childhood Catholic Church, with interment at Fort Snelling National Cemetery.

Brenda Zimmerman

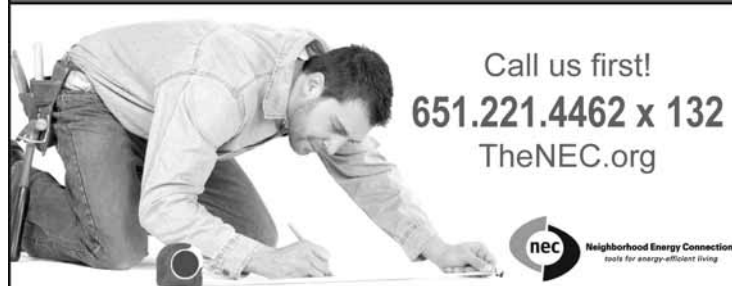
Brenda S. Zimmerman, 74, of Falcon Heights, died July 5.

Brenda's favorite hobbies were gardening, photography and reading. She was preceded in death by her nephew, Scott Levine. She is survived by her husband of 53 years, Benjamin; two daughters, Karen (Howard) Linsk and Laura (Jonathan) Singer; two grandsons; and her sister, Arlene (Michael) Levine.

A graveside service was held July 9 at Temple of Aaron Cemetery in Roseville.

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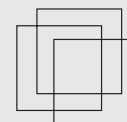
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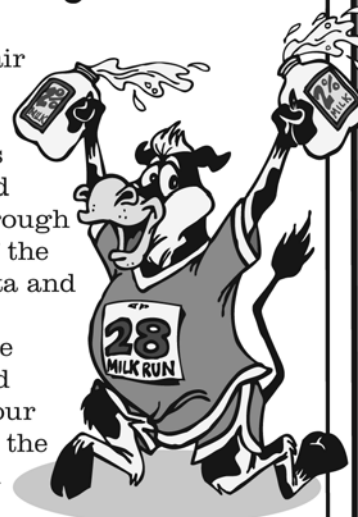
MINNESOTA STATE FAIR

MEMO

ATTENTION: Residents of St. Anthony Park

Sunday, August 25, the Minnesota State Fair will hold it's 29th Annual 5K Milk Run. The race course begins on the fairgrounds and then winds its way through the St. Paul campus of the University of Minnesota and the St. Anthony Park neighborhood. The race begins at 7:45 a.m. and may affect traffic in your neighborhood between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 9:00 a.m.

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



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Business News

C&E Lofts celebrates grand opening and ribbon-cutting

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

Built in 1917 by 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 artists' lofts.

Exeter Realty and Ironton Asset Fund purchased the building in 2011. Renovations include 104 lofts

available for rent. Find out more at www.ce-lofts.com.

Martial arts studio opens on Larpeur Avenue

Martial arts teacher Jake Erling has opened THE ART martial arts studio at 1535 W. Larpeur 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 theartllc@hotmail.com or stop by THE ART Martial Arts Studio, in the lower level of the Falcon Crossing Mall.

District 10 from 2

The mayor's proposal phases in funding cuts for district councils facing a population loss over a three-year period. Knox is asking that the mayor place District 10 in a similar category by adjusting funding over three years to maintain equity among district councils. This would allow District 10 to seek alternative funding sources and adjust to the new funding, the letter said.

Knox's letter asks the mayor to fund the district at \$3.90 per resident (\$61,429) in 2014. That amount represents the average per-resident funding rate of all district councils, the letter said, and then \$3.70 per resident (\$58,390) in 2015 and \$3.55 per resident (\$55,917) in 2016.

"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 transition with the new people."

In January, the City Council approved a recommendation that the residents 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 \$51,873.



Park Perks

In June, Sunrise Banks' charitable coffee bar, Park Perks, raised \$671 for Urban Boatbuilders, a nonprofit youth development program based in the Midway area. Here, Terri Banaszewski presents the check to Marc Hosmer, executive director of Urban Boatbuilders, which builds boats with youth in St. Paul and Minneapolis.

Neighbors from 14

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 Minneapolis designed to teach the basic first aid skills needed to help a person who is experiencing a mental health problem or crisis.

This 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 651-645-2948.

Dakota Day at Gibbs Farm celebrates state's first people

Dakota Day at Gibbs Farm will feature the museum's new Dakota 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 Dakota summer lodge and 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 rchs.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 Ricklefs 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 Main St., is open noon-4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays.

T. Mychael Rambo to perform March on Washington tribute

Actor T. Mychael Rambo and musicians Patty Lacy-Aiken and friends will present "Martin Luther King and the March on

Washington—A Musical Memory" on Thursday, Aug. 15, at 7 p.m. at the Ramsey County Library, 2180 N. Hamline Ave., Roseville.

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

An affiliate professor 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 Minister in Penumbra's "Black Nativity."

Rambo has performed in several Guthrie main stage productions as well as at the Illusion Theatre, Minnesota Opera, Ordway Center for the Performing Arts, Children's Theatre, Mixed Blood Theatre, Park Square Theatre and Hey City Theatre.

This program is funded with money from Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

Co-ed drum circle set for Aug. 23

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 at 8 a.m.

Walk, run or stroll Minnehaha Avenue from the Hamline Midway Library, 1558 W. Minnehaha Ave., to Lexington and Minnehaha streets and back. Early bird event registration is \$20 for adults and \$10 children.

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

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A song that will linger

Frank Steen (right) 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 Minnesota 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 "Hard Times Come Again No More," a song popular during the Civil War. The next St. Anthony Park Neighborhood Sing will take place Monday, Aug. 19, on the second floor of the Luther Seminary Olson Campus Center, 1490 Fulham 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 Sanikhatam, 651-239-0321. Ads are \$5 per line. Add a box or art for \$10. **Next deadline: Aug. 16.**

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

Meet Murray Middle School's new principal

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 needed 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. Middle school was where 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 Theien-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., Theien-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

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