



Where have all the flowers gone?

Larpenteur Avenue once was a hub for greenhouses and garden centers.

Page 6



A holiday tradition

Boy Scouts from Troop 17 have been making their own wreaths for more than 15 years.

Pages 10



Latkes and pumpkin pie

This year's Hanukkah-Thanksgiving overlap is creating endless culinary possibilities.

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Holiday Hoopla

Holiday shopping and entertainment guide begins on page 11



Park Bugle

www.parkbugle.org

December 2013

CHAMPS!

The journey to the Como boys soccer state title was 'hair-raising'

By Kristal Leebrick

After Zach Lee shaved his face on Aug. 11, as the Como Park Senior High School's soccer season began, he vowed to shave again only when his team lost a game.

They never did.

The superstition of not shaving in sports competition until a team loses or is eliminated seemed to work for the Red Sox when they won the World Series in October. Apparently it worked for the Cougars too.

Lee's face didn't feel a razor until Halloween, the day the Como boys soccer team captured the Class A state championship with a score of 2-1 against Hill-Murray.

The win gave Como its first state title in a team sport since the school opened in 1979, something the now clean-shaven team captain describes as "pure joy and happiness."

"I feel like I'm dreaming," said Lee, a senior at the school. "It really hasn't sunk in."

Coach Eric Erickson describes it as a dream come true, not only for the team, but also for the rest of the student body, the staff, school community and alumni. He's proud of the team for "giving all they had and for being a first-class team that loves playing for each other and for the school," he said.

But win or lose that title, "I was going to be proud of these guys whenever their season ended," Erickson said.

After the 2012 team's conference championship, section championship and state tournament

Champs to 3



Captains Zach Lee, Yeng Yang and Will Kidd hoist the championship trophy at the end of Como Park's Oct. 31 game against Hill-Murray at the Metrodome. Photo by Mike Krivit, www.krivit.com

What does the future hold for St. Anthony Park?

That's the question that will be discussed at the St. Anthony Park Community Foundation's December gathering, State of the Park.

St. Anthony Park residents are invited to attend an evening of getting to know the people and the groups that make things happen in the neighborhood on Thursday, Dec. 5, at St. Anthony Park Elementary School. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

A discussion about the future of the community will be moderated by Met Council member and St. Anthony Park resident Jon Commers at 7 p.m. and will include Andrew Collins, assistant superintendent of St. Paul Public Schools; Dan Marshall, owner of Peapods; Mary Beck, chair of St. Anthony Park Area Seniors; Tanya Bell, an expert in redevelopment and urban planning; and Catherine Day, chair of District 12's Creative Enterprise Zone Action Team.

Nonprofit groups from the neighborhood will have information tables set up with representatives to share what they do in District 12.

C I T Y F I L E S

Como Park

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

Lake Como walk

Walk off your Thanksgiving dinner with your neighbors. Join District 10 Como Community Council members on two post-turkey walks around Lake Como. Meet at the Como Lakeside Pavilion (look for the turkey!) at 10 a.m. or 4 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 29. For more information, call 651-644-3889.

District 10 volunteer open house

Take a break from the holiday hustle

and bustle and learn about opportunities to volunteer right in your neighborhood with the District 10 Como Community Council. You'll have a chance to talk with other District 10 volunteers about their work and sign up for projects or committees that interest you. Stop by District 10's offices in the Historic Streetcar Station, 1224 N. Lexington Parkway, on Sunday, Dec. 8, from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. Cocoa, cider and cookies will be provided.

Special election

The District 10 Como Community Council will hold a special election at its Dec. 17 board meeting, held at 7 p.m. at the Historic Streetcar Station, 1224 N. Lexington Parkway. The

election will fill two vacancies on the board created by the addition of a new Subdistrict 4 to the district.

Subdistrict 4 is bounded by Snelling Avenue and Dale Street between the two sets of BNSF Railway tracks. Both directors will serve terms through the District 10 annual meeting in April, 2014.

Candidates who live or represent a business in Subdistrict 4 are encouraged to contact the District 10 office at 651-644-3889 or district10@district10comopark.org for a nomination form, which is due no later than 5 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 2. Nominations from the floor may also be made during the meeting.

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. Larpentur Ave.

New parking changes near Falcon Heights Elementary School

The City of Falcon Heights has implemented new parking restrictions near Falcon Heights Elementary School after it was brought to the city's attention that motorists parking and stopping close to the sidewalks near the school were blocking the ability of crossing guards and students to see oncoming traffic.

The city is now limiting parking and stopping on the south side of Garden Avenue between Holton and Albert streets between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. In addition, parking and stopping will not be allowed at any time on the north side of Garden, as is currently posted in front of the school and this will extend 45 feet east of the intersection of Garden Avenue and Albert Street.

These changes will take effect as new signs are posted.

Join a city commission

Falcon Heights residents are encouraged to apply for openings on the Planning, Parks and Recreation, Environment and Neighborhood commissions.

High school students may be eligible for some of these openings. For more information, contact Bart Fischer, city administrator, at 651-792-7600.

An application may be downloaded at falconheights.org and brought into City Hall. City commissioners are appointed by the mayor and confirmed by the City Council.

Parks & Rec seeks applicants

The Falcon Heights Parks and Recreation Department is accepting applications for positions as attendants at the Curtiss Field warming house. Go to www.falconheights.org and click on Parks and Recreation—Job Opportunities to download the application. Applicants must be 16 or older. More information is available on the website.

Fitness classes

Enjoy Falcon Heights Community Park while exercising different parts of your body in the Adult Boot Camp class that meets on Saturdays, 7-8 a.m. through Dec. 7. Drop-ins are welcome. Each class is \$12, and \$10 for students.

Yoga classes meet at Falcon Heights City Hall on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9-9:55 a.m., through Dec. 5. Note: There is no class on Thursday, Nov. 28 (Thanksgiving). A Saturday yoga class meets from 11 a.m. to 12:20 p.m. at city hall through Dec. 28. Drop-ins are welcome. Each class is \$12 per session for adults and \$10 for students.

Sexual assault, personal safety class

Don't be a victim. Learn how to recognize a potential threat and what to do when that threat is imminent in a free safety class taught by St. Anthony Police Chief John Ohl and Sgt. Jon Mangseth on Thursday, Nov. 21, at 7-8 p.m., at St. Anthony Community Center, 3301 Silver Lake Road.

The class will cover strategies to help you avoid becoming a victim. Youth are welcome to register and

attend with a parent or guardian. Please be aware that explicit language and scenarios will be part of this class.

Falcon Heights and Lauderdale residents can call 612-706-1166 to register or go online to www.isd282.org/cs.

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.

Sexual assault, personal safety class

Lauderdale residents can participate in a sexual assault and personal safety class offered by the St. Anthony Police Department on Thursday, Nov. 21. See details about the class above in the Falcon Heights section of City Files.

St. Anthony Park

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

New council members

St. Anthony Park residents elected new community council board members in October. Congratulations to Michael Russelle (delegate), Wanjiru Mugo (alternate), Mimi Jennings (alternate), Kevin Caufield (delegate), JoAnne Makela (delegate), Christina Morrison (delegate) and Brad Englemann (alternate). There are still openings for business delegates, who will be appointed by the board. If you are interested in representing the business community on the board, email amy@sapcc.org.



District 10's Oct. 26 pancake breakfast at the Hubert H. Humphrey Job Corps Center included a costume parade for kids.



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Luther Seminary exploring new ways to develop property

Luther Seminary is in the early stages of exploring ways to develop some of its property. This exploration has been prompted by the changing needs of the seminary, as well as the surrounding communities. As President Rick Foss said at a recent meeting with some leaders of St. Anthony Park, "The seminary is committed to staying in its current location and continuing to be a vibrant contributor to the communities we live in."

Last spring, a property-development committee was formed by the seminary to investigate new opportunities. This committee is made up of a variety of people, including Rick Beeson, executive vice president at Sunrise Banks in St. Anthony Park; Tanya Bell, a St. Paul resident who has been active in the neighborhood and is well-known for her real estate expertise; and several seminary board members, including Tom Holtz, a commercial real estate professional, and Gus Blanchard, the former CEO of Deluxe Corp. There are also several seminary staff leaders on the committee.

The committee has been meeting with community leaders in Lauderdale and St. Anthony Park, county and state officials, neighbors and surrounding businesses to develop an understanding of community needs, Bell said. "We have begun to meet with developers about a variety of ideas that reflect the needs identified in the Como 2030 plan and we hope to choose one or more of these developers in early 2014."

The Como 2030 Plan is part of St. Paul's comprehensive plan for the north part of the St. Anthony Park neighborhood. The plan was developed in 2006 and 2007 to create a blueprint for the area that includes increased housing options for an changing and aging neighborhood demographic.

No decisions have been made as to which properties or what kind of projects will be developed, but the seminary intends to keep the community involved and informed as plans continue, Bell said. The seminary expects the development to occur in phases starting in 2014.

Champs from 1

appearance, there were a lot of holes to fill this year, Erickson said.

"We graduated six starters (out of 11) and that included our three leading goal scorers and our goalie," he said. "We then lost our captain and leader of our defense to an ACL injury that required surgery over the summer, which obviously meant he wouldn't be playing this season either."

A state championship in 2013? Erickson didn't see it coming.

"We switched some players into new positions to try and fill some of the holes," he said, "namely [co-captain] Will Kidd who had been a midfielder for us for the previous two seasons. We moved him up to forward because we thought he could score goals with his skill and determination if he practiced there during the off-season and summer. He ran with the responsibility and showed everyone we'd be able to score goals. Then we addressed our midfield and defensive holes by switching some other player positions, and plugging in three of last season's JV players right into our starting line-up, which is a great credit to our program and coaching at our lower levels."

Once the team began playing, they surprised a lot of people with the early successes, Erickson said, "maybe even ourselves."

"We were tested time and time again in the St. Paul City [Conference], which was extremely deep and talented this season," Erickson said. After winning two overtime games, Erickson said the team became more confident in the players' abilities. "We were beginning to feel that we were as good as anyone else out there."

Tor Will, the senior who scored the first goal in the Oct. 31 game, said the state championship wasn't a total surprise. "We had gone to state last year and we worked hard this year. We were confident we could do it if we worked."

And they did, winning game after game, until the final one at the Metrodome on Halloween, when Seik Seik scored the second goal with 6 minutes left in the game. Though Hill-Murray secured one goal after that, the Como Cougars kept them at bay until the clock ran out.

Como's first state team win was reported throughout the media, but Erickson—who has been coaching soccer at the school for 10 years and



St. Paul Mayor Chris Coleman declared Nov. 7 Como Park Senior High School Boys' Soccer Day in the City of Saint Paul. Coleman joined St. Paul Public Schools Supt. Valeria Silva to congratulate the boys' soccer team on their win. Pictured here are (row 1) Anders Sateren (Mr. Cougar), Israel Guzman, William Xiong, Jacob Cohen, Ba Blue Moo and Ka Nae Win; (row 2) Ulisses Rocha Rumbo, Hsa D Moo, Supt. Silva, Ebrahim Hashim, Jonah Leurquin, Lah Htoo and Seik Seik; (row 3) goalie coach Paul McCune-Zierath, Mayor Chris Coleman, Doug McCune-Zierath, Zach Lee, Tyler Johnson and Yeng Yang; and (row 4) Abdikarin Diriye, Will Kidd, Max Inskeep, Tor Will, Nga Reh, and coaches Jonah Fields and Eric Erickson. *Photo by Lori Hamilton*

teaching AP government, AP economics and U.S. history there for 14 years—points out that Como's gym "is filled with banners of St. Paul City championships, some section championships and state tournament appearances, both for individual participants and teams."

"We have a wonderful athletic department that provides opportunities for all of our student-athletes and supports them and their efforts, regardless of their skill level, experience or records," he said.

"High school athletics is about enhancing the educational experience of our students through athletic competition and commitment. We have promoted and supported that experience for over 30 years and are very proud of all Como's student-athletes, past and present."

Thanks to Mike Krivit for the use of his photos. See more Como soccer pics at, mikekrivitportraitsevents.zenfolio.com.



Seik Seik (left) lands the winning goal thanks to an assist from Abdikarin Diriye (no. 16). *Photo by Mike Krivit, www.mikekrivit.com*

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P.O. Box 8126
St. Paul, MN 55108
www.parkbugle.org
651-646-5369

Editor

Kristal Leebrick
651-646-5369
editor@parkbugle.org

Production Manager

Stephen D. Parker
612-839-8397

Obituaries Editor

Mary Mergenthal
651-644-1650
mary.mergenthal@gmail.com

Delivery problems?

651-646-5369
editor@parkbugle.org

Subscriptions and billing

Fariba Sanikhatam
651-239-0321
fariba@parkbugle.org

Calendar submissions

calendar@parkbugle.org

Copy Editor

Ruth Weleccki

Proofreader

Christine Elsing

Display advertising

Genevieve Plagens
651-325-7189
genevieve@parkbugle.org

Ruth Weleccki

651-335-0299

ruth.weleccki@parkbugle.org

Classified advertising

651-239-0321
classifieds@parkbugle.org

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

Opinions expressed in the Bugle by the editor, writers and contributors do not necessarily represent the opinions of the board of directors, Park Press, Inc. Copyright 2013, Park Press, Inc. All rights reserved.

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What if they opened the stores on Thanksgiving and nobody came?

L E T T E R S

The Bugle welcomes commentary and letters to the editor . Send them to editor@parkbugle.org.

Housing options: An invitation to architects, property owners

There was overwhelming support at the Nov. 5 community meeting for further consideration of allowing additional housing units, of modest size, in the St. Anthony Park neighborhood to fill a need for seniors or empty nesters to downsize without leaving the neighborhood, to allow more flexibility in use of current and new housing units, and to accommodate returning children, aging relatives, visitors or other renters.

Several options were discussed, including Accessory Dwelling Units (small living units, either separate from the existing main house or attached to it), conversion of existing space in a larger home to create a separate living unit and the “house within a house” concept. The presentation by Dr. Lyn Bruin from the University of Minnesota was

excellent, as was the involvement of staff from the St. Paul Planning and Economic Development

Department, who discussed details of a draft Central Corridor ordinance that would include south St. Anthony Park.

Several issues need to be addressed. To facilitate that discussion with real-world examples, the District 12 Land Use Efficiency action group is asking local architects and property owners to participate in the creation of conceptual designs for specific properties.

For each site, the property owner will provide a statement of needs and goals. In collaboration with the owner, the architect will develop preliminary design options, consisting of floor plans, site plans and sketches of the exteriors. These will be available for discussions with neighbors and for public review and comment. Neither party will be

obligated to pursue the plans further, and we ask the architects to participate pro bono for this phase.

These plans will reflect a variety of owners’ needs, site conditions and architectural solutions. They may identify the controls needed for a local zoning overlay (unit size limits, need for off-street parking, etc.). Instead of discussing these issues theoretically, these plans will allow more concrete examples.

Architects, residential designers, and property owners wishing to participate should contact me, Philip Broussard, at 651-645-0266 or pbroussard@architron.com.

*Philip Broussard
St. Anthony Park*

Camp Invention says thanks

I would like to thank St. Paul Community Education for hosting

the Camp Invention program this summer. Camp Invention allows children to transform their natural curiosity into big ideas by presenting real-world challenges that require them to use creativity, innovation, problem-solving skills and teamwork.

This summer, 54 local students at St. Anthony Park Elementary School joined more than 77,000 students nationwide in exploring STEM concepts through exciting, hands-on problem-solving activities.

I especially thank Camp Invention director Nikki Schilling, the talented local teachers and youth staff for inspiring the St. Paul students, who displayed amazing creativity and resourcefulness throughout the week.

*Susan Z. Clarke
Regional Consultant for
Camp Invention*

Put the Bugle on your year-end gift list

As you assess your year-end charitable giving, don’t forget to give to the Park Bugle.

Like most nonprofits, the Bugle relies on tax-deductible donations to help defray its annual operating costs. Your donations go toward the cost of printing and producing a newspaper that is delivered, free of charge, to 14,500 households and businesses in the communities of Como Park, Falcon Heights, Lauderdale and Anthony Park.

Help us reach our goal of \$35,000 in our 2013-14 fund drive.

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Go to www.parkbugle.org and click on the green GiveMN button in the upper right corner, or send a check to the Park Bugle, P.O. Box 8126, St. Paul, MN 55108.

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C O M M E N T A R Y

The Eyelet

By Jack Neely

The thought came to me as I laced up my boots: After thousands of crossings, the metal eyelet had worn away the old bootlace's outer cloth covering, down to its strong inner tough twine center.

Maybe that is what experience does to one's character: It exposes

one's inner strength. What one appears to be to others may not be the real you. You are changing with every new experience.

So maybe you do not know what you are made of until you age a bit. (On the other hand, if that inner core is made of a less-resilient substance, it will shred and break,

usually at a most inopportune time.)

Rather than answer Alec Baldwin's question, "What's in your wallet?" ask yourself, "What's in your eyelet?"

Jack Neely lives and muses in St. Anthony Park.

A heartfelt apology to our Como Park neighbors

In our efforts at outreach and updating our mailing list, we experienced a big "OOPS" and many of you received fund-drive letters from us in November that were addressed to the wrong first name. This error can and will be fixed, and we apologize for the errors.—*Park Press Board of Directors*

Happy holidays from the Bugle staff



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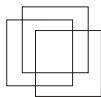
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A view of some early Linder growing fields, looking north toward Larpenteur Avenue. *Linder's Garden Center*

Where have all the flowers gone?

With Linder's demise, Larpenteur Avenue's 'greenhouse era' comes to an end

By Roger Bergerson

The recent closing of Linder's Garden Center not only represented the loss of a longtime local business, but also marked a poignant end to the "greenhouse era" along Larpenteur Avenue.

For more than a century, growers on or near the avenue sold plants and shrubs, some on both a retail and wholesale basis, to adorn many homes and gardens in this area and beyond.

Names like Gibbs, Rosacker, Hermes, Lebens, Lindig and Linder were associated with businesses that thrived as St. Paul expanded northward and the suburbs bloomed.

Their predecessors were farmers, people like Heman Gibbs and Lorenzo Hoyt, who began working the land in Rose Township in about 1850. (Rather than its floral future, the name Rose referred to the man who conducted the original land survey.)

According to a University of Minnesota study, the pioneers initially planted wheat and other large-scale production crops. But as the soil gradually became depleted over the ensuing 50 years, they and those who followed gradually moved into dairy farming and market gardening.



A wagonload of pansies at Hermes. *City of Falcon Heights*

The early years

And in the 1870s, Lorenzo Hoyt began developing what eventually became the 10-acre Hoyt Nursery at Hamline and Hoyt avenues. By the early 1900s the nursery was known for its award-winning iris, peonies and roses, all field grown.

The first greenhouses in the area may have been those of Albert Linder, which he began building in 1901 on Wheelock Parkway. Initially, he grew celery and other vegetables,

gradually shifting to cut flowers and flowering plants.

Similarly, Peter Hermes established a truck farm on Larpenteur north of the University of Minnesota's St. Paul campus in 1906 and soon began adding greenhouses. That operation, too, evolved into the raising of floral crops, roses in particular.

Frank Gibbs, one of Heman's sons, opened for business on the south side of Larpenteur near

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Selling peonies to raise money for the Red Cross during World War I. *Minnesota Historical Society*

Cleveland Avenue in 1912, later taking on an in-law as a partner in Gibbs-Nelson Florists.

In 1920, Nic Lebens began operating on Larpenteur, just east of Lexington Avenue. (Like Lorenzo Hoyt before him, Lebens was a long-serving justice of the peace for Rose Township, sometimes holding court in his dining room.)

And there were many, many others.

Time of transition

According to Neil Anderson, professor of floriculture in the University of Minnesota's Department of Horticultural Science, a big change occurred after World War II.

"It became possible to ship in vegetables from California and elsewhere, and, at that point, many of the early truck gardeners switched over entirely to cut flowers and container-grown plants," he said.

At first, cut flowers accounted for 80 percent of local production, but when blooms from Florida and California, and later Latin America, entered the market, there was a dramatic shift to bedding plants.

A new generation of growers brought both innovation and creativity. With partners, Nic Lebens Jr. operated flower farms in Guatemala and Florida. In the 1970s, the Hermes family produced cut flowers at their greenhouses in Becker, Minn., using warm wastewater from the Northern States

Power plant for heat. Dave and Lil Linder continually expanded and opened the new garden center on the Larpenteur end of their property in 1984.

While all this was going on, the land was becoming more valuable and sought after by developers. Competition from supermarkets and other sellers, both domestic and abroad, intensified. The growers' ranks began to thin.

The Lebens were hit hard, first by the sudden death of Nic III in 1985, and then his father a year later. Pat Lebens, Nic Jr.'s widow, daughter Jody and son Philip scaled back the operation and kept it going until 2003. Today Pat lives in the Greenhouse Village Cooperative that was erected on the former Leben's site.

The others faded away, too, and the only remaining link to the past is the Hermes Floral store at 1639 W.

Larpenteur Avenue.

What's ahead?

Does this trend mean that consumers will eventually rely entirely on big-box stores like Wal-Mart and Home Depot for their gardening needs?

"Those stores offer some interesting things, but I hope not," said the university's Anderson.

"I'd say the take-home lesson is that you constantly need to innovate and be nimble. We have many successful independent retailers who, in addition to offering specialty items and high-quality materials, are very savvy in keeping up with changing consumer tastes with new crops and new varieties."

Roger Bergerson is a longtime Como Park resident who enjoys writing about local history and is a regular contributor to the Park Bugle.

A shattering experience

On the afternoon of June 23, 1962, a narrow band of tulip-bulb-sized hail pummeled what was then the northern edge of the Twin Cities. Up to 90 percent of the glass in the greenhouses on Larpenteur Avenue, as well as on the university's St. Paul campus and at the Como Park Conservatory, was broken. Similar incidents over the years encouraged growers to switch to synthetic glazing.

This article has been made possible in part by the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund through the vote of Minnesotans on Nov. 4, 2008. Administered by the Minnesota Historical Society.

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Reno Rossini: beloved Murray science teacher, football coach

Reno D. Rossini, 92, died Oct. 17. He was the son of Domenico and Maria Rossini, immigrants from Lucca, Italy.

Rossini was a beloved science teacher and football coach at Murray High School in the 1950s and 1960s. "Reno Rossini was a 'no-nonsense' teacher who instilled knowledge in his students," said Anna Morlock Skovholt. "Although I had no interest in chemistry, I received an 'A' at St. Olaf in chemistry because of what I learned from Mr. Rossini."

He grew up in the Frogtown neighborhood, in the shadow of St. Agnes Church, where he was schooled and served Mass. In the family's home on Charles, an old-world gentility reigned: Tuscan specialties bubbled on the stove and Enrico Caruso's lilting tenor rose from the phonograph. Outside, the



Murray's 1957 yearbook, *The Pilot*, was dedicated to Reno Rossini.

streets teemed with a lively multicultural mix of kids, their families scraping by through the Depression.

In Frogtown, Reno learned to be tough and stand tall. He also learned the value of honesty, personal integrity and abiding friendship, lessons he would take with him the rest of his life. Reno attended Cretin High School, then the College of St. Mary in Winona. There, he was president of the Glee Club, starred in Gilbert and Sullivan productions, and found the great love of his life, Rosemary Vanderah, a dark-haired beauty from the farm belt of southwestern Minnesota.

After serving in the Navy and earning a master's degree at Creighton University, Reno returned to Minnesota to marry Rose. The children came in short order, a total of eight to fill the bungalow in St. Paul's North End. Reno finished the house's second floor and built a family room, put in a large vegetable garden to feed his brood, and filled his hand-built terraces with flowers. Reno loved his big family, and the home and gardens were extensions of that love.

Reno was a legendary chemistry teacher, a football coach and, finally, a vice-principal and principal in St. Paul Public Schools. In addition to Murray, he worked at Mechanic Arts, Marshall, Central and Highland Park high schools, putting his mark on every institution. There wasn't much wiggle room in Reno's chemistry lab; each class began with an inspection of the students' shoes for a proper shine. School wasn't about learning facts, Reno told his students; it was about developing character.

During his four-decade career in the St. Paul schools, Reno had an impact on many lives; as late as a week before he died, former students were writing letters to the man they affectionately called "Prof." Reno loved to teach, but he also loved to learn. He sent his children mailings stuffed with bits of Roman history, Italian proverbs, political cartoons and a favorite Ole and Lena joke.

Ever the philosopher, Reno counseled his children through the twists and turns of life. How many 92-year-olds can speak at length about the proper way to prepare pork chops and spinach, Tuscan style, and in the next breath, discuss the latest discovery in modern physics?

Reno was also a romantic with a passion for life. To watch him dance cheek-to-cheek with his beautiful Rosemary, her skirt swaying as they floated across the dance floor—that was an image of true love.

Reno was a man of deep faith. In his last years, he spent his days at the kitchen table with three objects before him: a brass crucifix from Italy, a picture of St. Padre Pio and

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www.falconheightsucc.org

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10:30 a.m. Midmorning worship

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Dec. 8 – 10:30 a.m. Chancel Choir concert with orchestra

6 p.m., Juncture One alternative worship

Dec. 22 – 10:30 a.m. Intergenerational Christmas pageant

11:45 a.m., Potluck and carol sing

Dec. 24 – 4:30 p.m. Christmas Eve family service

10 p.m. Christmas Eve candlelight service with readings

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2129 Commonwealth Ave. (corner of Commonwealth and Chelmsford)

651-646-7173 www.sapucc.org

9:15 a.m. Christian education for all ages; 10:30 a.m. worship

Pastor: Victoria Wilgoeki

December 15: Choral Sunday

December 22: Children's Pageant

December 24: 4 p.m. Family Service; 10 p.m. Candlelight Service

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Dec. 24: 5 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

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The Birdman of Lauderdale

by Clay Christensen

Counting crows

It's mid-October as I write this, and there is a flock of crows in my neighborhood that are going a bit nuts.

There are usually seven of them hanging out together. They are across the street in Jim's front yard, pecking away at things on the ground or perching on some of his statuary. In fact, he says one of them frequently gets into his fountain in the backyard and splashes around so much that most of the water spills out.

The crows are often in the street, pecking at leaves. I think they must have some experience with potato chips, because they treat each leaf like it could be a chip, picking it up, turning it over, and nibbling at an edge before dropping it.

They really project a "gangsta attitude," walking with a certain swagger. Jim watches them strutting up and down and tells me he thinks we've got a gang problem in the neighborhood.

Then there are the cawing sessions. When I hear crows calling, I often try to figure out what they're saying, what's the code? Four caws are answered by three or five caws in the distance.

Is it the count, the inflection, the volume? Most of the time I think they're just messing with my head.

But the real impressive action is when the crows start their aerial displays. These guys are like jet fighter pilots, doing quick turns, banking, diving and swerving, all in tight formation. There seems to be some animosity on the part of some of the crows toward others. Something's going on, but it's not clear to me what it is.

To try to sort it all out, I began to think about what we know about the social behavior of the American Crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*). Crows often stay in small family groups for most of the year. In fact, it's common for last year's offspring to come back to help mom and dad raise this year's youngsters. But at some point, I would think the folks would try to let the "teen-agers" know that it's time to go off, find themselves a mate and set up territories of their own. Perhaps that's what all this chasing and squawking is about.

My wife and I sat at the kitchen table one noon hour watching the crows put on their show, when something flew by that didn't look quite right. It was a pair of big birds, and one was a crow all right, but it was being chased by something that wasn't black. What was that?

After a few passes, we realized it was a Cooper's hawk giving chase. It pursued the crow with every bit as much aggression as the crows had chased each other.

Crows often mob an owl or other predator, trying to drive it away, but I'd never seen a hawk chasing a crow before.

They zoomed across the street with the crow finally settling into



Crows sometimes project a "gangsta attitude," walking with a certain swagger and hanging out in large groups. Photo by C. Harris Mallory

Jim's yard with its buddies. The hawk broke off the pursuit and perched on the peak of the decorative, gabled dormer over Jim's front door.

I focused my binoculars on the Cooper's. It had pale yellow eyes and rusty streaking on its breast and sides. It looked to me like a juvenile. The crows seemed unconcerned as the hawk sat on its pinnacle, surveying the yard from above.

Then, as Jean and I watched, the Cooper's hawk launched itself off the dormer, and in a smooth, level flight, came straight at us, hitting the feeder in front of our kitchen windows. A startled house finch jumped off the feeder, bumped into the window, and was instantly snatched by the hawk. The hawk clutched it with the talons of one foot, flew to the ground about 10 feet away, and prepared to dispatch its prey.

Suddenly, the crows took a renewed interest in what was going on and came swooping in, probably thinking they could steal the finch from the hawk. But no dice. The hawk took off, finch in hand (er, talons), and left the crows behind.

That Cooper's had spotted the finch from across the street. I'd guess it's about 100 feet from our kitchen windows to Jim's front door.

The bird has some pretty amazing visual equipment. And the crows had witnessed the attack on the finch and executed their attempted hijacking almost instantaneously.

Maybe what looks to me like crows acting nutty, actually keeps them poised for action, on the edge,

ready to take advantage of any opportunity.

Clay Christensen blogs about birds at www.BirdmanofLauderdale.com. His book, *The Birdman of Lauderdale*, was published in November.

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Bringing in the greens

*Wreathmaking is 15-
year tradition for Scouts**By Maria Rogness*

For many St. Anthony Park residents, the first sign of the holidays is answering the door to find a Boy Scout selling wreaths for local Boy Scout Troop 17.

"When I see that uniform, I know I'd better start digging out my decorations," said one woman, whose own kids have long since grown up. "I look forward to it every year."

What is less well-known is that, unlike almost all troops selling wreaths across the country at this time of year, Troop 17 makes their own wreaths and they don't have to go to the North Pole to do it.

Mark Hansen, a longtime St. Anthony Park resident and assistant Scoutmaster for the troop, is part of the now four generations that run and own the Hansen Tree Farm in Ramsey, Minn. He had been thinking about making wreaths at the farm for some years when the light bulb went on during a Scout meeting about 15 years ago.

Many kids living in the city have never experienced going out into the woods to cut their own Christmas trees. Acquiring the skills to handle oneself in the outdoors is an important component of the Scouting program. Why not have the Scouts learn how to make their own wreaths from start to finish instead of ordering them premade from somewhere else?

"At one point," Hansen said, "we all just decided to 'go for it' and I ordered a wreath-making machine. We got permission from a colleague of mine who makes maple syrup to cut the balsam fir out from the sugar maple trees on her land, and we piled everyone into a couple of trucks and headed up to the range."

It was a cold October that year, Hansen said. "By the time we got there, we had to set up our tents in the dark, but it didn't phase our Scouts. We figured it out. And the troop has been cutting our own boughs and making our own wreaths every year since then."

No matter what the weather is,



Scouts on the late-October camping trip where they gathered the greens needed for their wreath-making enterprise: (front row, from left) Jackson Lee, Caleb Andrew and William Farley; (middle row) Nick Jacobsen, Brian Whelan and Erik Lucas; and (back row) John Proper and Liam Anderson.

Troop 17 goes camping in late October with the purpose of cutting enough boughs over the course of three days to make all the wreaths and garlands they will sell going door to door. The campout, flipping pancakes around a campfire and sleeping out in all sorts of weather are a big part of the experience, but Scouts are also learning about how trees grow and the difference between several kinds of fir, pine and cedar.

"The trees and branches that get cut for boughs need to be thinned out to make space for other trees to grow anyway," Hansen said. "It's a win-win."

For the past five years, the troop has been camping and cutting their boughs on a tree farm near Cambridge owned by Carl Vogt, a retired Extension forester who was with the University of Minnesota for more than 30 years. After an adult uses a chainsaw to bring down a tree, the scouts swoop in, drag the tree into a clearing, save the top for decorations (like the ones used in the window boxes at the St. Anthony Park Library), snip the rest of the branches off the trunk, stack them and load everything up in a truck. They do this for hours at a time. Sap gets caked on gloves, clothes and hair

where it sticks for days.

"My mom isn't so happy about it, but I actually like the smell on my jacket," Brian Whelan, one of the older Scouts, commented. "It reminds me of the woods."

Scouts spend October and November taking orders and assembling the wreaths, swags and garlands that they will deliver in late November. While the older Scouts have been through the process for a number of years, younger Scouts get trained on how to use the equipment safely. The Hansen garage becomes an assembly line and discussion is devoted to which station the old radio should be tuned to. Hot cocoa gets passed around when fingers start to freeze up and the stacks of wreaths in the corner get higher and higher as the hours roll by.

"We could just order them ready-made from somewhere," assistant Scoutmaster Mike Smith says, "but here we have a complete entrepreneurial process, where we gather the raw materials, manufacture, sell, deliver and use the profits for our troop's activities. The Scouts really learn some valuable skills."

So the next time a Boy Scout rings your doorbell selling wreaths, ask him to make your wreath with extra sap. It will smell better longer. And if you missed a visit, email the troop at troop17info@gmail.com or you can buy one at Speedy Market, 2310 Como Ave., starting Nov. 23. It's been made by someone right in your neighborhood.

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Holiday Hoopla

Your go-to guide for all things December (and a little November)

BEFORE WE LAUNCH INTO ALL THE DECEMBER FUN happening in Bugleland, we've got some November to take care of.

First up is a holiday art show and sale at 2010 ArtBlok in Minneapolis. If you have wondered what happened to some of the local artists who once filled the studios in the Chittenden & Eastman building at 2402 University Ave. (now the C&E Lofts), check out their new studios in the old General Mills research labs at 2010 E. Hennepin Ave. on Friday, Nov. 22, noon-9 p.m., and Saturday, Nov. 23, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

Skip the mall on Black Friday and head to Raymond Avenue where the shops there will be celebrating Block Friday and Small Business Saturday on Nov. 29 and 30. Special promotions and offers will be running throughout the block, and the merchants have a lot to celebrate: notably, the end of road construction on Raymond Avenue.

Now let's get to December.

SHOP HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS. The St. Anthony Park neighborhood will kick off the holiday season on Saturday, Dec. 7, with its annual Shop Home for the Holidays in the Como Avenue business district. Shoppers will find merchant specials up and down the avenue; reindeer-pulled sleigh rides and Santa photo-ops at **Sunrise Banks**, 2300 Como Ave., 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m.; cookie decorating at **Tim and Tom's Speedy Market**, 2310 Como Ave., 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; a wine tasting at the **Little Wine Shoppe**, 2236 Carter Ave., 1-4 p.m.; and an **artisan market** at Milton Square, at the corner of Como and Carter avenues, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. The market will also be open on Sunday, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., and will feature local artists selling silk-screened textiles, wreaths and greens, pottery, jewelry, paintings, gourmet granola, felted handbags, hats and belts made from vintage fabric, and more. **Thistle**, the vintage furniture and treasure shop in Milton Square, will be open all weekend the same hours as the artisan market.

Winter caroloers from **Vienna Community Arts** will perform at Milton Square at 3 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. on Saturday. **Bungalow Pottery** will host candle-

Holiday Hoopla continued on page 12



BLUE HOUSE BOUTIQUE

Saturday, December 7 – 9 to 3
Sunday, December 8 – 9 to 1
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--	---

2 DAYS ONLY! DEC. 7&8

MILTON SQUARE
at the corner of Como & Carter avenues

Holiday Hoopla from page 11

dipping for children with Gibbs Museum, 10 a.m.-noon. And just across the hall from Bungalow, **Eddie Owens of Turning Heads** salon will have a show and sale of his sculptures.

Micawber's Books, 2238 Carter Ave., will donate a portion of the day's sales to St. Anthony Park Elementary School. Parents from the school will be on hand with treats and to giftwrap your books.

Milton Square merchants will be offering the following specials: **Muffuletta** will have mulled wine on the outside patio; **Complexions on Carter** will have skincare specials and sell jewelry and stationery from local artists; and **Lady Elegant's** will offer discounts in the shop.

All Milton Square merchants will be collecting donations for **Toys for Tots** for teenage boys ages 13-17.

Peapods is offering gift wrapping for any purchase made on Saturday at any store for \$2, which will be donated to the Twin Cities Childbirth Collective. If you spend \$5 or more at **Finnish Bistro** you get a free chocolate chip cookie. (And if you mention **Ruth from the Bugle** while you are getting that cookie, you get a free hug too.)


And if you need a festive cap to the day's festivities, **Santa** will be on hand at 5:15 p.m. Saturday to light the tree in Milton Square.

SPEAKING OF SANTA . . . Have dinner with Santa and Mrs. Claus, on Friday, Dec. 6, 5:30-7 p.m. at Langford Recreation Center, 30 Langford Park. The event includes a spaghetti dinner, a holiday craft project, cookie decorating, face painting and, of course, photo opportunities with the Christmas couple. The cost is \$5 per person or \$25 maximum per immediate family. Ages 2 and under are free. Register at www.stpaul.gov/parks (it is activity no. 11080) or call 651-298-5765.

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We wish for all the Bugle readers to enjoy a merry Christmas and a joyous 2014!

—The staff at St. Anthony Park Dental Care, Todd Grossmann and Paul Kirkegaard



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Hoopla

If that's not enough Santa time for you, Mr. and Mrs. Claus will pose for photos at Sunrise Bank between 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. during Shop Home for the Holidays on Saturday, Dec. 7. The couple will also visit Milton Square, 2232 Carter Ave., on Wednesday, Dec. 11, and Monday, Dec. 16, to do a little storytelling in the lower level from 6 to 7 p.m. The Milton Square storytimes are free.

BLUE HOUSE BOUTIQUE: This annual sale and benefit will be held on Saturday, Dec. 7, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 8, from 9 a.m.-noon, at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 2136 Carter Ave. The boutique is a major fundraiser for the Blue House, an orphanage in rural Uganda for 20 girls and boys who have lost their parents to AIDS. The sale will feature handcrafted items for the holidays, including hand knits, crafts, cards, gifts, table centerpieces, ornaments, gourmet foods and more. Saturday's sale will include a homemade lunch (11 a.m.-1 p.m.) with soup, bread, sandwiches, coffee and pastries.

ANAPHYLAXIS AND FOOD ALLERGY OF MINNESOTA (AFAA) will hold its seventh annual benefit concert and silent auction on Dec. 7 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, 2323 Como Ave. Admission is free. The Como Park Senior High School Band, directed by Dr. Philip Fried, will perform and there will be crafts for children, apple cider and allergen-friendly cookies. Call 651 644-5937 to donate silent auction items and services.

A PIONEER CHRISTMAS: Celebrate an 1800s Minnesota Christmas at Gibbs Museum, at Larpenteur and Cleveland avenues, in a two-hour program on Saturday, Dec. 7, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Actors will portray people from the era and the buildings will be decorated. The program includes a bonfire with hot chocolate, making cornhusk angels and learning about how the Gibbs family celebrated the holiday in the sod house, the

Holiday Hoopla continued on page 14

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Wednesday, December 25, Christmas Day: 10:00 a.m.
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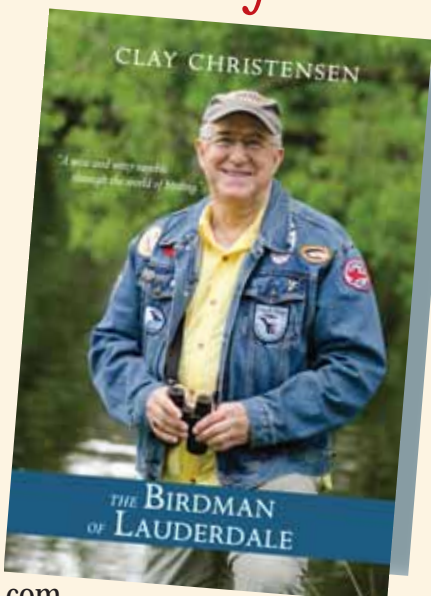
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& New Year's Eve, Dec. 31st.
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\$25 per family or \$30 extended family
(up to 10 people)

Holiday Hoopla

Holiday Hoopla from page 13

main house and in the Victorian-era parlor after it was built in 1869. The museum gift shop will be open. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$9 for seniors and \$7 for children. Reservations are required. The reservations are timed to

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CREATE A GIFT AT DRIFTWOOD: Checkout Driftwood Community Arts' Five Dollar Fridays on Dec. 6 and 13, 4:30-5:30 p.m. Artists at Driftwood, 777 Raymond Ave., will help you create a simple gift in the class. Each session will have a different activity geared to all ages and the cost is \$5 per class. Find out more at www.driftwoodcommunityarts.com. Driftwood will also have a booth at the artisan market at Milton Square on Saturday, Dec. 7, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

HOLIDAY FLOWER SHOW: The Holiday Flower Show at the Marjorie McNeely Conservatory in Como Regional Park opens Saturday, Dec. 7, and will run through Jan. 5.

Happy Holidays from your Good Neighbor



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Holiday Hoopla

The show will feature hundreds of poinsettias, including the new variety Christmas Beauty Nostalgia with pink and green bracts.

ALL ABOARD THE NIGHT TRAINS: Night Trains is a holiday tradition at the Twin City Model Railroad Museum in Bandana Square, 1021 Bandana Boulevard, Suite 222. The show opens Saturday, Nov. 30, and runs every Saturday evening, 6-9 p.m., through Feb. 22. A season premiere will be held on Friday, Nov. 30, and a New Year's Eve special will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 31. Santa will be at the museum for four consecutive Saturdays, beginning Nov. 30. He will have a sack of goodies for good girls and boys. Bring your camera!

Night Trains Season displays the museum's dozens of model railroad layouts in a magical way: Lights are turned down and the buildings and streetlights glow. The make-believe town of Matlin is buried in a blizzard, and throughout the museum the layouts are adorned with miniature

Christmas lights and decorations.

Admission is \$10 per person or \$25 for immediate families and \$30 for extended families (maximum of 10 people). Admission is free for children ages 4 and under. Find out more at www.tcmrm.org.

Holiday Hoopla continued on page 16



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Holiday Hoopla

Holiday Hoopla from page 15

HOLIDAY TEA: Enjoy a three-course tea service at the Marjorie McNeely Conservatory's Winter Flower Show on Thursday, Dec. 12. There will be two seatings, one at 11 a.m. and one at 2 p.m. Cost is \$35 per person before Thanksgiving and \$40 after Thanksgiving. Call 651-487-8250 for reservations. The event includes a behind-the-scenes tour of the conservatory's greenhouse space.

YPC HOLIDAY SHOW: Youth Performance Company will present "Junie B. Jones in Jingle Bells, Batman Smells" in 21 performances Dec. 6-27 at the Howard Conn Fine Arts Center, 1900 Nicollet Ave., Minneapolis. The cast includes Chase Kozak, a St. Anthony Park resident. The Prospect Park youth theater company, will take Junie B. Jones and set her in a whirlwind of holiday costumes, a Secret Santa exchange and festive fun with her grade-school

classroom. Find out more at youthperformanceco.org or call 612-623-9180.

LIVE NATIVITY: Bethel Lutheran Church, 670 W. Wheelock Parkway, will host a live nativity Saturday, Dec. 21, in four 15-minute enactments at 6, 6:30, 7 and 7:30 p.m. The event, which is free to the public, features a retelling of Jesus' birth (the Christmas story) with people, sheep, goats and a donkey in an outdoor stable setting. Between shows, guests are invited to pet the animals and come inside the church building for coffee, hot cocoa and cookies.

PLAY SOME GAMES AT THE LIBRARY: The St. Anthony Park Library is hosting an open-board gaming day on Monday, Dec. 30, 1-5 p.m. The library will have a host of familiar games such as chess, Stratego, Risk and Monopoly, as well as new, challenging games such as Settlers of Catan, Castle Panic, and Axis and Allies. You just need to show up. The event is open to all ages.

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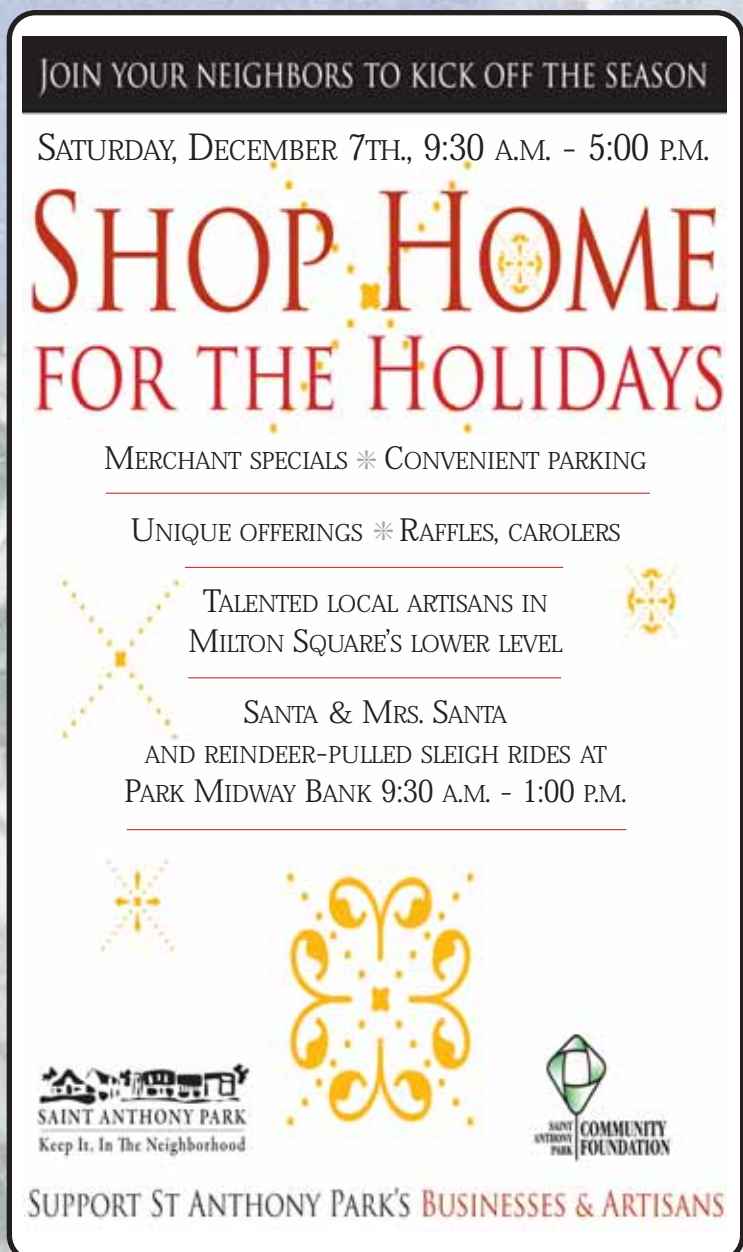
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the eat beat

Carve the turkey and pass the latkes, please

By Alex Lodner

This year, the first night of Hanukkah lands just a few hours before Thanksgiving Day, and the first full day of Hanukkah will have to share the spotlight with a turkey.

This holiday convergence is a once-in-a-lifetime event of mythical proportions, at least for Jewish American households. This epic marriage of two favorite holidays has, by most accounts, never happened before and for all intents and purposes never will again. Apparently Hanukkah did fall on the last Thursday in November in 1861, but that was before President Lincoln declared it a national holiday in 1863.

So how did this rare lunar vs. solar event come to be? Thanksgiving always falls on the fourth Thursday of November and Hanukkah will always begin on the 25th of the Jewish lunar calendar month of Kislev. Since the lunar calendar does not match the Gregorian calendar—the most widely accepted and used civil calendar internationally—Hanukkah appears to be arriving very early in 2013. The holiday has not landed this early since 1888.

If the Jewish calendar is never modified, this cosmic holiday hybrid may happen again, but we'll have to wait until Thursday, Nov. 28, in the year 79,811.

How this miracle of timing will affect this year's holiday shopping and rituals remains to be seen. Do we interrupt the football game to light the second candle? Good luck with that.

Since it is improbable that any of us will be around for the next occurrence of Hanukkagiving, we may want to focus on what really matters: food. The possibilities of this culinary marriage are boundless. Sweet potato latkes? Cranberry jam sufganiyot? There are endless opportunities to bring together the fragrant fall flavors of Thanksgiving with the indulgent deep fried

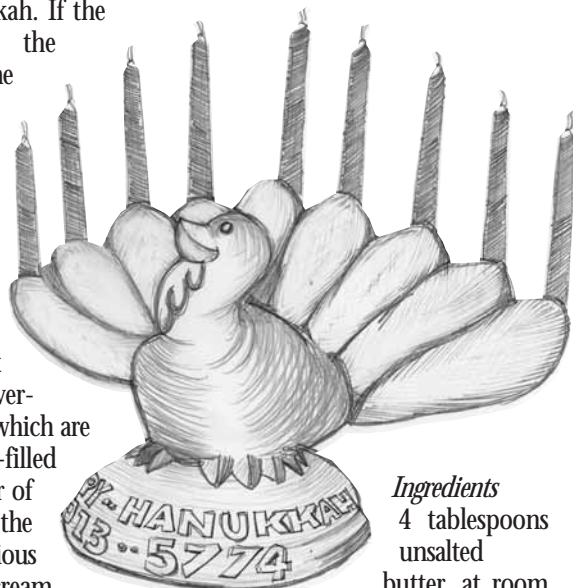
goodness of Hanukkah. If the Pilgrims had the Maccabees over for the holiday meal, what would they serve? If they had a deep fryer and a candy thermometer, that is.

Here is a recipe for one of the best things about Hanukkah, the ever-popular sufganiyot, which are simply jelly-filled doughnuts. In honor of Hanukkagiving, fill the doughnuts with luscious pumpkin buttercream filling or your favorite Thanksgiving-esque jam. Sufganiyot are best served by the glowing light of the (only slightly disturbing) Menurkey. (You can actually buy a turkey-shaped menorah at <http://menurkey.com>.)

Sufganiyot with pumpkin buttercream filling

1½ pounds Brioche dough (recipe follows)
Vegetable oil for frying
Pumpkin buttercream filling (recipe follows), pumpkin butter or cranberry jam
Powdered sugar for dusting on top

Pumpkin Buttercream filling
From *Chow.com*



Ingredients
4 tablespoons unsalted butter, at room temperature

1/4 cup pumpkin purée (not pie filling)
1/2 teaspoon nutmeg
1/8 teaspoon finely grated orange zest
2 cups powdered sugar, sifted

Instructions for filling

Place the butter, pumpkin, nutmeg and orange zest in a medium bowl and whisk until combined. Add the powdered sugar and whisk until completely smooth and combined. Transfer to a piping bag fitted with a 1/4-inch round tip; set aside at room temperature.

Brioche dough

From *Artisan Bread in Five Minutes a Day*

Ingredients

1½ cups lukewarm water
1½ tablespoons yeast
1½ tablespoons salt
½ cup honey
8 eggs, lightly beaten
1½ cups (3 sticks) unsalted butter, melted
7½ cups unbleached all-purpose flour
Egg wash (one egg beaten with 1 tablespoon of water)

Instructions for brioche dough

1. Mix yeast, salt, eggs, honey and melted butter with water in a 5-quart lidded (not airtight) container.

2. Mix in flour without kneading, using a spoon, 14-cup capacity food processor (with dough attachment), or a heavy-duty stand mixer (with dough hook). You may need to use wet hands to get the last bit of flour to incorporate if you're not using a machine. The dough will be loose but will firm up when chilled (don't try to use it without chilling).

3. Cover (not airtight) and allow to rest at room temperature until dough rises and collapses (or flattens on top), approximately 2 hours.

4. Dough can be used as soon as it's chilled after the initial rise. Refrigerate remainder and use over the next five days.

Instructions for Sufganiyot

Roll the dough out to about 1/4-inch

thick and use a round cutter to create the circles (the size will depend on how big you want your doughnuts). Lay the cut out circles on a lightly floured baking sheet or wax paper. Cover loosely with plastic and let them rest for about 30 minutes.

Heat about 4 inches of oil in a large pot. You want to make sure there is plenty of room above the oil. Set up a candy thermometer on the rim.

Once the oil reaches 360° F you can fry the doughnuts. Depending on the size of the pot, you will want to fry two or three at a time. Make sure they have plenty of room to expand without crowding each other. Cook for 1 1/2 minutes on one side and then flip. You may have to do this a couple of times until they are golden brown. Remove the doughnuts and allow them to cool on a plate covered in paper towel.

Once the doughnuts are completely cool, poke the tip of a paring knife into one end to create a hole.

Fill pastry bag with pumpkin buttercream filling, pumpkin butter or cranberry jam. Cut a small hole in the pastry bag and fill the doughnut with about a tablespoon of the filling. Sprinkle with powdered sugar if desired and serve warm or at room temperature

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DECEMBER

Events

Venue information is listed at the end of the calendar. Send events by Dec. 4 to calendar@parkbugle.org to be included in the next Bugle.

1 SUNDAY

Free young adult dinners, St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church, every Sunday, 6:30 p.m.

3 TUESDAY

Baby Lapsit Storytime, St. Anthony Park Library, 10:30 a.m.

St. Anthony Park Garden Club meeting, "Attracting Hummingbirds to Your Garden," presented by Donald Mitchell, St. Matthew's Episcopal Church Fellowship Hall. Business meeting, 6:30 p.m.; social time 7-7:20 p.m.; program 7:20 p.m.

4 WEDNESDAY

English Conversation Circle, every Wednesday except Dec. 25, St. Anthony Park Library, 4 p.m.

St. Anthony Park Book Club, "Mr. Penumbra's 24-hour Bookstore," by Robin Sloan, St. Anthony Park Library, 6:30 p.m.

5 THURSDAY

State of the Park, a conversation with the St. Anthony Park Community Foundation, St. Anthony Park Elementary School, 6:30 p.m.

6 FRIDAY

Preschool Storytime, every Friday except Dec. 27, St. Anthony Park Library, 10:30 a.m.

Five Dollar Friday, Driftwood Community Arts, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Dinner with Santa and Mrs. Claus, Langford Recreation Center, 5:30-7 p.m. Call 651-298-5765 to make reservations.

First Friday Contra Dance, Celtic Junction, 7-10 p.m. Cost is \$7.

7 SATURDAY

Shop Home for the Holidays, Como Avenue business district, all day long. See page 11 for more information.

Artisan Market, Milton Square, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Candle-making with Gibbs Museum, Bungalow Pottery, 10 a.m.-noon

Blue House Boutique, St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

A Pioneer Christmas, Gibbs Museum, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Santa, sleigh rides and fun, Sunrise Banks, 2300 Como Ave., 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

Anaphylaxis and Food Allergy of Minnesota benefit, St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Tree lighting with Santa, Milton Square, 5:15 p.m.

8 SUNDAY

Blue House Boutique, St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 9 a.m.-noon

Milton Square art market, 12-4 p.m.

9 MONDAY

Women's Human Rights Film Series, "Salaam Dunk," St. Anthony Park Library, 7 p.m.

10 TUESDAY

Baby Lapsit Storytime, St. Anthony Park Library, 10:30 a.m.

11 WEDNESDAY

Storytime with Santa, lower level, Milton Square, 6-7 p.m. Free

13 FRIDAY

Five Dollar Friday, Driftwood Community Arts, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

16 MONDAY

Storytime with Santa, lower level, Milton Square, 6-7 p.m. Free

Neighborhood Sing, second floor, Olson Campus Center, 7 p.m. All are welcome.

18 WEDNESDAY

Preschool Mandarin Chinese Storytime, 3 p.m., St. Anthony Park Library

24 TUESDAY

Christmas Eve, libraries are closed

25 WEDNESDAY

Christmas Day, libraries and government offices are closed

30 MONDAY

Open Board Gaming: play Chess, Stratego, Risk, Monopoly, Settlers of Catan, Castle Panic or Axis and Allies, 1 p.m., St. Anthony Park Library

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, St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Mondays and Thursdays, Lauderdale City Hall, 2-3 p.m.

VENUE INFORMATION:

Bungalow Pottery, 2230 Carter Ave., 651-644-4091

Celtic Junction, 836 Prior Ave N.

Driftwood Community Arts, 651-340-0929

Gibbs Museum, 2097 Larpenteur Ave. W., 651-646-8629

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

Lauderdale City Hall, 1891 Walnut St., 651-631-0300

Milton Square, 2232 Carter Ave., miltonsquare2262@gmail.com

Olson Campus Center, Luther Seminary, Fulham Street and Hendon Avenue

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

St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, 2323 Como Ave., 651-645-0371

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 2136 Carter Ave., 651-645-3058

St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church, 2200 Hillside Ave.

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Christmas

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December 25
10:00 a.m.

COMMUNITY DINNER
Dec. 4, 11, 18
5-6:30 p.m.

SUNDAYS
Dec. 22 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Dec. 29, 10:00 a.m.

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Neighbors



Together again

Three St. Anthony Park college freshmen—midfielder Jack Blodgett, goalie Joe Krivit and defenseman Harry Broderick—play soccer for Lawrence University in Appleton, Wis. Lawrence, a D3 school in the Midwest Conference, were 7-10-1 this year.

Women's Drum Center hosts co-ed drum circle on Nov. 22

The Women's Drum Center, 2242 W. University Ave., will hold a co-ed drum circle on Friday, Nov. 22, 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. Drums will be provided. Find out more at www.womensdrumcenter.org.

ECFE at Rondo

Baby FUNdamentals, a free Early Childhood and Family Education (ECFE) class will be held at Rondo, 560 Concordia Ave., Fridays, 9:30-11 a.m. The class begins Nov. 22 and runs through Dec. 20. Contact Colette or Orapan at 651-325-2793 or at colette.otto@spps.org for more information.

Events at Spirit United Church

Bishop Bill Torvund will lead a workshop titled "Breath of the Divine: The Sacred Tradition of Higher Intuition and Initiate Experience" at Spirit United Church, 3204 S.E. Como Ave., Minneapolis, on Sunday, Nov. 24, 2-4 p.m. Cost is \$30 for students, seniors and members, \$35 for other adults and \$40 for couples and families.

The Theosophical Society will be screening the documentary "Healing Sounds: The Principles of Sound Therapy" Monday, Nov. 25, at 7 p.m. at the church. A \$5 free-will donation is suggested. Call 651-235-6645 for more information.

Horticulture award

Mary Maguire Lerman, retired

horticulturist for Minneapolis parks and a resident of St. Anthony Park, was presented the Terrace Award at the fall open house at Terrace Horticultural Books, 503 St. Clair Ave., on Nov. 16. The award recognizes Lerman's service to horticulture in Minnesota.

Baseball camps

Two six-week baseball camps will be offered in conjunction with the U.S. Baseball Academy for players in grades 1-12 in the new year.

Hamline University's head coach Jim Weyandt will direct a six-week camp at the school starting

Saturday, Jan. 11. DeLaSalle High School coach Douge Schildgen will direct a six-week camp at the school starting Sunday, Feb. 9.

Go to USBaseballAcademy.com or call 866-622-4487 for more information.

Northwest Como classes

Upcoming winter and spring classes at Northwest Como Recreation Center, 1550 N. Hamline Ave., include Ballet/Creative Movement, Parent/Child Soccer, Sesame Street Gang Art Class, and Big and Messy Art Class for preschoolers; Artist Workshop, Jazz/Ballet/Hip Hop, Hip Hop for Boys, Funtastic Fridays, Lego Fungineering, Archery, Floor Hockey, Ice Skating Lessons, Indoor Soccer and Tae Kwon Do for youth; Youth Jam, Archery, Mardi Gras Dance and Babysitting Training for teens; and Line Dance, Gamers, Women's Basketball, Men's Soccer and Girls Night Out Art Class for adults.

Registration begins on Dec. 9. Register at www.stpaul.gov/parks, call 651-298-5813 with a credit card or come into Northwest Como, Monday to Thursday, 3-8 p.m., or Friday, 3-6 p.m.

Activities at Langford Rec Center

There may still be openings in the youth basketball program at Langford Recreation Center, 30 Langford Park. Call 651-298-5765 or go to stpaul.gov/parks to find out more.

Langford is open for Parent Toddler Play Time for adults and children four and under on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:15-10:30 a.m. Playtime is free.

Winter Blast is a free afternoon program on Thursday and Friday, Dec. 26 and 27, noon-4 p.m., for children in grades 1-6. Winter Blast will include crafts, gym games, outdoor activities and more. You must preregister by Monday, Dec. 16



Someone did remember

We printed a photo titled "Does anyone remember the SAP PTA ladies?" on our Neighbors page in the October issue. Someone did. Eric Donaldson wrote, "The photo was taken in front of 2364 Buford, looking east. The woman second from the right is Frieda Oakins, who lived at 2360 Buford, which is the house in the immediate background. Frieda and her husband, Harold, raised three children in that house. Their first child was Joanie Oakins, my mother-in-law. Frieda passed away in 1978, and the home had two subsequent owners before being purchased in 1983 by my wife, Susan (Joanie's daughter), and me. We have restored the house and raised our own family here, making it four generations of the same family who have lived here."

at the park. Registration will not be taken online.

A holiday cookie class will be held on Monday, Dec. 9 and 16, 5-6 p.m. for ages 8-12. Cost is \$15.

Classes in Soo Bahk Do, a traditional martial art, are offered for students ages 6-15 on Thursdays, 5:30-6:30 p.m. The class is ongoing and costs \$45 per month plus an additional fee for a karate outfit and patch.

Soo Bahk Do classes for adults and teens ages 16 and older are ongoing and are offered on Thursdays, 6:30-8 p.m. The cost is

\$55 per month.

Warren MacKenzie show at Raymond Avenue Gallery

Raymond Avenue Gallery will be showing the pottery of Warren MacKenzie and the sculpture and paintings of Joseph Brown through Friday, Dec. 20. The gallery, 761 Raymond Ave., is open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., and Saturday, noon-4 p.m.

Brown trained in pottery under Warren Mackenzie and the two have been friends for more than 50 years.

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Lives lived from 8

St. Francis' prayer for peace—in Italian, of course.

Reno wanted to live to 100. It was only his body that let him down in the end—that, and perhaps the thought of joining Rosemary, who passed in April 2013.

Reno was preceded in death by his wife; one son, Raymond; a grandson, Joseph; and his brothers, Martin and Adolph. He is survived by his children, Steve, Martha (Gary Olson), Clare (Joe Byrne), Tony (Diane), Jeanne (Tom Weir), Mary (Bill Anderson) and Andy (Liz); a daughter-in-law, Sue Salmela (Paul Burnett); 19 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Oct. 23 at Maternity of Mary Catholic Church, with interment at Roselawn Cemetery.

Dorothy Falkoski-Mathes

Dorothy M. Falkoski-Mathes, 86, of Falcon Heights, died Oct. 23. She was preceded in death by her sisters, Geraldine and Evelyn. She is survived by her brother, Eugene; her aunt, Rose Beard and family; and dearest friends, Donald Scott and Nancy Haynes.

Gladys Freeman

Gladys H. Freeman (née Schultz), 97, of Como Park, died Nov. 3.

Gladys loved baking, was an expert pie maker and enjoyed

making Christmas cookies for her many family members. She was a faithful volunteer at Como Park Lutheran Church, serving in a variety of capacities. She loved children.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Maurice; brother and sister-in-law, Arthur and Gladys Schultz; and sister, Irene Jensen. She is survived by daughters Joyce (Louis) Oberdeck and Joan (Jeff) Hasslen; son James (Paula) Freeman; six grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and sister Eleanor Schultz.

Her funeral was held Nov. 8 at Como Park Lutheran Church, with interment at Elmhurst Cemetery.

Joseph Knoblauch

Joseph W. Knoblauch, 86, of Excelsior, died on Oct. 14. He grew up in St. Anthony Park, first on Scudder Street and later on Doswell Avenue across from College Park. He graduated from Murray High School, where he excelled in basketball and football.

His family was instrumental in building the first Corpus Christi Catholic Church at Cleveland and Buford avenues (now owned by the Emily Program).

Joe graduated from the University of Minnesota and was a proud member of the University of Minnesota basketball team. He enlisted in the Navy and was trained to be a signalman.

Joe married Margie Jacobson on Dec. 20, 1948. She had grown up across from Monkey Island in St. Anthony Park. Together they raised six children. Joe taught math and social studies at South Junior High School in Hopkins. He also was a coach, counselor, assistant principal and principal at the school. He finished his 32 years in education as principal of Hopkins' Eisenhower High School.

Joe enjoyed coaching basketball and football and was delighted to connect with former students. An entrepreneur, Joe had many business ventures, from owning tree farms to investing in the Hopkins House and Breezy Point Resort near Pequot Lakes, Minn.

He was preceded in death by his son, Daniel, and his wife of 64 years, Margie. Joe is survived by his children, Kathy (Terry Ische), Bill (Patty), LuAnne (Dan Danko), Mary (Martin Carlson) and John (Sharon); nine grandchildren; four great-grandsons; and sister, Kathryn Felion.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Oct. 19 at St. Hubert's Catholic Church in Chanhassen.

Rhonda Lundquist

Rhonda Lundquist, 54, of Falcon Heights, died at home on Oct. 23 from ovarian cancer.

Rhonda and her partner of 16 years, Ann DeGroot, were the first same-sex couple to apply for a Ramsey County marriage license. On Aug. 1, the day hundreds of Minnesota gay couples celebrated their legal marriages, they received news that Rhonda's cancer had spread to her brain. On Aug. 4, Rhonda and Ann were married, surrounded by family and friends.

Originally from St. Cloud, Rhonda took action to address social needs, from affordable housing to domestic violence. She worked at TASKS Unlimited, the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency, the Minnesota AIDS Project and as an independent grant writer. She graduated from Hamline University and received a master's degree in public policy from the University of Minnesota Humphrey Institute and a master of fine arts degree in poetry from Antioch University.

Rhonda loved poetry, politics and a good conversation. Her life was full of people and good humor. She knew the value of a good story and, according to her friends, she was the funniest. Rhonda showed how to live a full life with cancer, living for eight years with a disease that was expected to end her life after 18 months.

Rhonda is survived by Ann and son, Andy. She was preceded in death by her mother, Mabel Foss, who died Oct. 11; father, Raymond Foss, and brother, Roger.

A celebration of Rhonda's life was held Nov. 3 at Prospect Park United Methodist Church.

Marion Hartwick

Marion E. Hartwick, 92, of St. Anthony Park, died Nov. 8.

Marion was born May 23, 1921, in St. Paul at Merriam Park Hospital. She was the oldest of two girls born to Charles and Florence Harris. Marion moved with her family to St. Anthony Park in her fifth-grade year. They lived on Knapp Street, facing Langford Park. Marion attended Gutterson School and graduated from St. Paul Central High School in 1938. She graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1942 with a degree in home economics.

Marion became a member of St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church in 1932. She fell in love with a handsome usher there and married Bill Hartwick on Nov. 21, 1942. After a naval stint in Texas, where Bill was a dentist, the couple purchased their home at 2153 Knapp St. in 1950. They lived there 47 years, then moved to Falcon Heights. Dr. Bill had his dental practice on Como Avenue from 1946 to 1979.

Marion took tremendous pleasure in serving various positions in her church. Toward the end of her life, the highlight of her week was working in the kitchen at the Leisure Center on Wednesdays. Her last day working there was Oct. 23, 16 days before she died.

Marion was an avid reader and enjoyed book club. She was a Blue Bird and Camp Fire leader in the 1960s and 1970s.

Marion and Bill had five children, all of whom graduated from Murray: Steve ('62), Ann ('63), Kathi ('65), Janet ('68) and Barbara ('77).

Marion was preceded in death by her beloved husband in 2005 and her son, Stephen, in 1986. She is survived by her daughters; 10 grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren.

Her memorial service will be held at St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church, Nov. 24, at 2:30 p.m.

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School News

The Bugle welcomes news about students and schools in the area. Send your news to editor@parkbugle.org by Wednesday, Dec. 4, to be included in the next issue.

Brimhall Elementary School

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

Brimhall named “reward” school

The Minnesota Department of Education has named Brimhall a “reward” school based on the Multiple Measurement Ratings, which measure proficiency, growth, graduation rates and progress in closing achievement gaps with students of color and students in poverty. This means Brimhall was in the top 15 percent of high-performing schools in the state based on these metrics. It reflects the dedication of the school’s teachers and staff. Way to go, Brimhall!

Brimhall notes

Brimhall’s enrollment is up. The direct-appeal fundraising campaign, “Music and Art: Give from the Heart,” is gaining support.

Parents donated food and prizes to honor teachers during conferences with a parent-sponsored dinner, a tradition at Brimhall.

Pumpkin Carving Night in October featured more than 70 works of art and some impressive carving skills. Students, staff and parents are working together under the Garden Committee to beautify the school’s landscaping. Sixth-graders are meeting weekly to develop a play, “Cinderella, Cinderella,” to present to the school in 2014.

Chelsea Heights Elementary

1557 Huron St., 651-293-8790
www.chelsea.spps.org

PTO fundraisers

Davanni’s, 1905 W. Perimeter Drive, Roseville, will donate a portion of its sales to the Chelsea Heights PTO on Thursday, Nov. 21, from 4-8 p.m. Freestyle Yogurt in HarMar Mall will host a fundraiser on Monday, Dec. 2, from 3-9 p.m., donating 15 percent of sales from the event. St. Paul Bagelry and Deli, 1702 N. Lexington Parkway, will donate 10 percent of its sales on Thursday, Dec. 12.

Como Park Senior High

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

Learn about Como’s college-readiness programs

Como Park Senior High hosted an Advanced Placement Information Night on Nov. 14 that outlined the school’s college-readiness programs, which include College in the Schools, Post-Secondary Educational Option and an extensive AP program. If you missed the program and would like to learn more about the programs, contact AP



Murray Middle School’s girls volleyball team: 2013 city champs.

coordinators Lisa Griffin at lisa.griffin@spps.org or Molly McCurdy, molly.mccurdy@spps.org.

Smart runners

Como’s boys varsity cross country team received the Gold Academic Award from Section 4AA because of the team’s combined GPA of 3.75 or higher.

The team includes Marshal Landrum, Luke Larson, John Proper, Matt Klein, Stefan Hankerson, Jacob Heiberger and Tuomas Sivula.

The girls varsity cross country team received the Silver Academic Award for having a combined GPA of 3.50 to 3.74.

The girls team includes Kathleen Miles, Mary Miles, Hope Helmin, Maddie Post, Lydia Nielsen, Ella Rouillard and Valerie Bares.

Murray Middle School

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

Barnes & Noble fundraiser

Murray’s annual fundraiser at Barnes & Noble will be held Thursday, Dec. 5, at the Roseville store in HarMar Mall. Student presentations will take place from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the store.

Winter concert

A Winter Holiday Concert will be held on Thursday, Dec. 12, at 7 p.m. in the Murray auditorium.

Sixth-grade Team Como update

Elizabeth Curran’s creative writing students wrote their own scary stories in October. Carol Moran’s creative writing students studied the use of metaphor and wrote an extended metaphor poem. April Vaughn’s mythology class attended a play about conflicts between Dakota people and European settlers. Sixth-graders have begun book clubs, where students gather in small

groups to read books at their choice and level.

Sports news

The flag football team and girls volleyball team won their city championship. The girls went 5-0 this season.

Spirit Week at Murray

The week of Oct. 28 was Murray Spirit Week. For most of the Murray students, it was the first spirit week that they have ever had.

We started off spirit week with Mis-match day. Students wore clothes that did not match. There were a lot of patterns out there.

The next day we had Twin Day. Pairs of twins and triplets walked the halls of Murray Middle School.

Wednesday was Pajama Day. Students and the cool teachers wore their favorite comfy pajamas to school.

Thursday was FAN-atic day; we wore the things that represent what we love the most.

And last, but not least, was ’80s Day: neon, big hair and someone called Madonna(?). We ended the week with a school dance on Friday that rocked the gym.

That week was a fun chance to work together as a school to show our school spirit.—*By Audrey Dehler, Nou Xiong, Lily Barton and Madi McPhee (AVID 7)*

Spanish news

Spanish classes recently celebrated the end of a successful period of learning with a piñata fiesta. Students are encouraged to visit the lessons on YouTube at “David Donch” (there are nine videos) to get really good at speaking this second most-spoken language in the world. *Sean ustedes bienvenidos a nuestras clases.*

Volunteer opportunities at Murray

Murray’s Pilot One-on-One Tutoring Program needs adults to tutor

students who need extra help to stay on track with assignments. You can sign up for any day of the week at any of the following times: 11:20 a.m.-12:15 p.m., 12:15-1:10 p.m. or 1:10-2 p.m. To volunteer, please contact Cindy Thrasher at 651-293-8740 or cindy.thrasher@spps.org.

Science fair

Murray’s science fair is Jan. 14. If you would like to be a judge, contact Gen Nakanishi, gen.nakanishi@spps.org.

St. Anthony Park Elementary

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

Visit Micawber’s on Dec. 7

Heading to the Shop Home for the Holidays event in St. Anthony Park on Saturday, Dec. 7? Stop in at Micawber’s Books, 2238 Carter Ave., which will donate a portion of the

day’s sales to St. Anthony Park Elementary School. Parent volunteers will be at the bookstore to giftwrap purchases and offer treats.

Target REDcard

Thank you to those who have designated St. Anthony Park Elementary School as the recipient of Target REDcard funds. The school recently received a check from Target for \$4,960 through the program.

Under the program, customers can use Target credit or debit cards and designate a school to receive up to 1 percent of the purchases made through those cards.

Go to Target.com/REDcard to sign up and use the school’s ID, 65602.

Lego League

Two fourth- and fifth-grade Lego League teams will compete this month.

Local students named National Merit Commended Scholars

Minnehaha Academy seniors Hugh Mayo of St. Anthony Park and Krista Victorson of Lauderdale were recently named National Merit Commended Scholars.

Mayo and Victorson were two of 11 students at the school who qualified for National Achievement and National Merit designation from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation.

National Merit Commended Students placed among the top 5 percent of more than 1.5 million students who took the 2012 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Qualifying Test.

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Business News

Fixing cars in Falcon Heights for more than 70 years

By Roger Bergerson

In the 1950s, 5-year-old Steve Horazdovsky decided to emulate his dad by playing “service station man” and filled up the gas tank of the family car. Unfortunately, he used the garden hose to do it.

Overcoming that early misadventure, Horazdovsky went on to own that station at the intersection of Hamline and Hoyt avenues in Falcon Heights himself.

Steve recounts that his father, Harry, discouraged his sons from following in his footsteps, although as it turned out, all five of them did so, at least for a time.

“Dad didn’t want any of us to get into the business because it was such a tough way to make a living,” said the only Horazdovsky still associated with the enterprise.

When brothers Earl and Harry Horazdovsky opened Hamline-Hoyt

Service in 1942, Harry was only 14, so his 23-year-old sibling clearly was the boss. There were a number of challenges associated with starting up during World War II, including the fact that gasoline rationing was in force. And the work schedule was brutal, with the station open 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday and until noon on Sunday.

Their father, Edward, who was bankrolling the venture, questioned the brothers’ wisdom in opening a station “so far out of town.” Housing in the area was sparse and didn’t start filling in until after the war, but Como Park Lutheran Church already was well-established and the Blomberg Grocery and Pharmacy had opened two years earlier. And there was streetcar and later bus service to the intersection, making it convenient for customers to drop off their cars and go to work.

Originally it was a two-bay Phillips 66 station, later Texaco and still later Mobil Oil. The fact that the Horazdovskys owned the land and building gave them some leverage in negotiating with the oil companies.

Earl left the business in the early 1950s and Harry, tired of the schedule, leased it to Herb Strandquist, becoming his employee for the better part of the next 20 years. In 1972, Strandquist retired and Harry resumed control. He was joined by Steve, who left the University of Minnesota after his junior year.

After Steve bought out his dad in 1982, Harry and his wife, Sally, retired to northern Minnesota. They were living in a care center in Brainerd when they passed away within months of each other not long

ago.

Steve himself has been plagued by a number of health issues and is limited to handling the station’s books, although he is still on-site regularly and enjoys chatting with customers. Facing hip surgery five years ago, he hired Kevin Loftus, a Carquest Auto Parts sales representative, as station manager.

Horazdovsky said he’s been blessed by having top-notch employees over the years and has enjoyed watching some mature on the job, “boys becoming men,” as he puts it. Several young men from the neighborhood have worked at the station, a current example being Joe Solheid.

At first, the station made most of its money on the sale of gasoline, but by the early 1980s, mechanical work was accounting for 90 percent of the revenue. At that point, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency issued a directive requiring that storage tanks over 25 years old be replaced and Horazdovsky decided to simply remove his and quit pumping gas.

Among the numerous improvements over the years were the addition of three more service bays and a major exterior facelift in 2000.

Overall, cars are much more reliable these days and may have twice the useful life they once did. While the station does fewer tune-ups and less transmission work now,



The Hamline-Hoyt Service staff with Steve Horazdovsky foreground, from left, Joe Solheid, Kevin Loftus, Dave Moffat and Jason Bishop. Photo by Roger Bergerson

because people keep cars longer, there’s more brake, exhaust and suspension repair. And the mechanics perform a lot of engine performance diagnostics using computer software.

The recent recession has been tough on Hamline-Hoyt’s business, but Horazdovsky said the past summer was busy and profitable and things seem to be coming around.

Through all the changes over the years, the one constant has been

Hamline-Hoyt’s emphasis on customer service, Horazdovsky said.

“We explain what’s going on in layman’s terms, why we’re doing what we’re doing,” he said. “And if we see the potential for future problems—tires getting worn, that sort of thing—we’ll say, ‘You might want to think about dealing with that in a few months.’”

“It’s all about helping people make informed decisions about what to do with their vehicles.”



SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN!

Santa & Christmas Carol visit Milton Square!

Saturday, Dec. 7 – Tree-lighting 5:15 p.m.
 Wednesday, Dec. 11 – Storytelling 6-7 p.m.
 Monday, Dec. 16 – Storytelling 6-7 p.m.

The event is free with a **Toys for Tots** donation for teenage boys, ages 13-18.

Space is limited. Please reserve a spot by emailing Heather at miltonsquare2262@gmail.com

Milton Square in the lower level
 2232 Carter Ave. / St. Paul 55108

Business Briefs

New businesses on Como Ave.

The Como Park area’s dining and drinking choices have expanded in the past few months, with the addition of a new wine and liquor store and two new restaurants, one serving a variety of regional Chinese cuisines and the other serving a truly international menu.

Toasted Wine, Spirits & Ales opened in May at 560 Como Ave. The store stocks more than 100 varieties of domestic and imported wine and 100 types of spirits, according to owner Deanna Doyle. Beer drinkers can also get their fill, with a wide range of craft beers filling the store’s shelves.

“We’re the neighborhood community store. We take a lot of requests,” said Doyle, who runs the store with her husband, Son Tran. She added that customers also come back because of the “great ambiance.”

Toasted Wine is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Friday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Shoppers looking to place large or unique

orders are asked call ahead 651-330-0619 or email Toastedwinespiritsales@gmail.com.

The **International Deli and Banquet Hall** opened in the spot of the old Abetto’s, next door to Toasted, in August. Owner Hassib Farooq’s menu mixes Mediterranean and Middle Eastern dishes such as falafel, gyros and kabobs with American fare such as hamburgers and Philly cheesesteak. “That’s why we named it the *International Deli and Banquet Hall*,” Farooq said.

The establishment has a banquet hall for rent that can host up to 300 people. The restaurant is open Monday-Thursday, 11 a.m.-8 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m.-9 p.m., and Sunday, 12-8 p.m. To find out more call 651-493-4693.

Farther west, **Café 99** opened on Oct. 3 in the former Bascali’s next to Nelson Cheese and Deli. Owner Hong Chen and her husband, Delin Qu, travel to their homeland of China several times a year to keep up with Chinese culinary trends.

As a result, Qu said, the menu

covers a wide range of Chinese cuisines, including Cantonese, Szechuan, Hunan, Yangtze Delta, Northern China and Mongolian.

Among the most popular dishes served at the restaurant are “boiled beef,” flank steak served on bed of cabbage and green onion and bathing in a Szechuan “spicy sauce,” and “Chrysanthemum flower” sole fillet in a tomato sauce, which Qu said was recognized at the Taste of Chanhassen celebration. The couple runs another restaurant in Chanhassen, a popular dining spot for visiting Chinese dignitaries, businesspeople and chefs, Qu said. The St. Paul location is at 1552 Como Ave.

The restaurant’s website, Cafe99mn.com, is still under construction, but customers can call 651-603-8899.—*Libor Jany*

Lauderdale auto body shop moves Hamline Auto Body of Lauderdale has moved to a new location in Vadnais Heights.

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: Dec. 6.**



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REIMBURSED SENIOR VOLUNTEER POSITION The Senior Companion Program is looking for volunteers to provide friendly in-home visits and transportation to elderly seniors in the community. Must be 55+ and willing to commit to a minimum of 15 hrs/week. Must be comfortable driving and working independently. Volunteers receive a tax-free stipend plus mileage reimbursement. Contact Cory Ramel at: 651-310-9450 or cory.ramel@lssmn.org

HELP WANTED

Enthusiastic part-time advertising sales person sought by Park Bugle for commission sales.

Sales experience, knowledge of Bugle neighborhoods and familiarity with Excel software desired.

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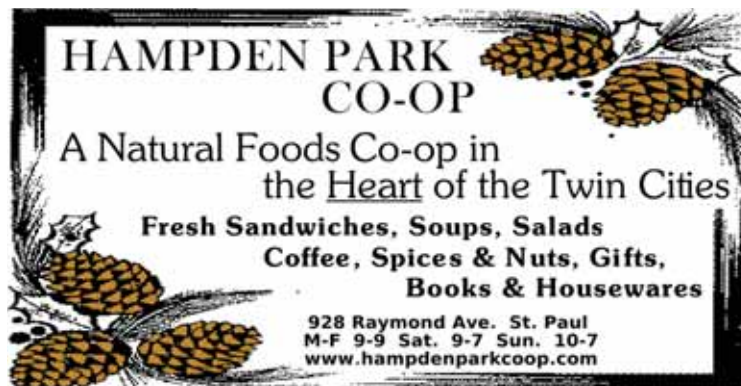


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Business News continued from 22

His next act: certified sommelier

By Kristal Leebrick

Tim Hausmann, manager and wine buyer at the Little Wine Shoppe on Carter Avenue, has added a new notch to his career belt: certified sommelier.

The accreditation comes after six months of attending eight-hour classes once a week through the International Sommelier Guild (ISG) at the Art Institutes International Minnesota in downtown Minneapolis and then passing a rigorous six-section 10-hour exam that included a four-hour essay test, a food-and-wine pairing test, and a blind taste test of 22 wines and spirits in which he had to identify the type of wine or spirit, the grape, the country of origin and the region of that country that the grape came from.

Of the 12 people who started the course, four took the test, and Hausmann was one of two who passed it.

Hausmann, who has been working at the wine shop for just over a year, launched into the sommelier training to learn more formally about wine and its history, geography and the various laws that govern the industry.

"I love that stuff," he said. "I could go off on tangents about geography and laws, but in the end it's really what's in the bottle that I need to know about for [his work at the wine shop]. Having this base of knowledge to focus on and help people, that's what I wanted to do."

Becoming a wine steward is part of the 30-year-old South Dakota native's transition out of a career in musical theater that took him to Broadway and a two-year international tour with *West Side Story*. Ultimately, that "dream come true" of being at the pinnacle of live theater wasn't the career Hausmann wanted.

"I just didn't love it anymore," he said. "My dream had come true of being on Broadway, but along with all the wonderful materialistic satisfaction with all of that was this huge sigh of relief that I had the freedom to do what I want now that I had the stamp of approval: 'You're successful as an actor.' Before that I was too proud to walk away from it."

As an actor in New York,



Tim Hausmann: certified sommelier at the Little Wine Shoppe. Photo by Lori Hamilton

Hausmann felt people only cared about whether or not you had the word "Broadway" on your resume.

"I didn't want to only audition for Broadway shows," he said. "I had done many productions that were more artful and more exciting and probably paid just as well as the Broadway show, but that was all people cared about. I looked at people who were 45 and 50 who had been nominated for Tonys and . . . they were still trying to get into the audition rooms or they were still on unemployment."

That was a trajectory he didn't find appealing, he said. "If I had loved it enough that every time I got on stage I felt everything was right in the world, I think I would have stuck with it; but it's not how it was for me. It became a job."

Hausmann took the advice of his father, a business consultant: "Don't do anything that's not fun."

When the stage work stopped being just that, Hausmann headed to Minnesota, where he has friends and a reasonably short drive to his family in South Dakota.

For now, he's enjoying learning and sharing what he knows about wine and the trends in the industry. "It's fun to be a part of that and translate it to the customer," he said.

So, let's ask the neighborhood sommelier what we should have with our Thanksgiving meal this year:

A good pairing for the turkey is a Dornfelder from Germany, a fruity red that helps cut the dryness of the turkey meat. "You need just a bit of fruit," Hausmann said. "Think of cranberries and turkey; that's Dornfelder. It's unique, and it's not Beaujolais or pinot noir."

And the pumpkin pie? Hands down, bourbon.

You can follow Hausmann on twitter: @mywineguytim.

Business Briefs from 22

The third-generation auto-repair firm, which was located at 2520 Broadway Drive and owned by the Huber family, has offered complete auto service in the St. Paul area for more than 50 years, fixing everything from blown fuses to major collision damage. For the past 11 of those years, Hamline Auto Body could be found at the intersection of Broadway and 280, just south of Hwy. 36.

According to Mike Huber, whose father, George, founded the business, Hamline Auto Body reopened Nov. 18 at 1451 Willow Lake Blvd., off Hwy. 61, north of Interstate 694.

The business hopes to maintain the same level of service for which it has been known locally and to maintain contracts with St. Paul and Roseville police departments at the new site.

Beaupre Aerial Equipment Inc. applied for a zoning amendment to

add their business to the former auto body site west of Hwy. 280.

Owned by former Minnesota North Star goalie Don Beaupre (hockey fans may recall the Canadian-born All Star played in the NHL for 17 years), Beaupre Inc. rents and repairs lift equipment for the construction, electrical, window installation, HVAC and roofing trades. "The building size is just what we're looking for," said Beaupre's Brad Swanson. —D.J. Alexander