



Study abroad

Two Como Park Senior High school alums share their tales from New York University-Abu Dhabi.

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A fish story

Lake Como has been home to northern pike, walleye, sunfish, and for a brief time, salmon.

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A country with its own rhythm

Roger Bergerson takes us on a tour of the once-forbidden island of Cuba.

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St. Anthony Park

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Como Park

Park Bugle

www.parkbugle.org

May 2014



Floral arrangements

If it's taking too long for your spring flowers to poke out of the ground, take a walk down Raymond Avenue in St. Anthony Park, where some colorful, cardboard creations are in bloom on utility poles along the street, stretching from Como to University avenues. Whoever painted these delightful buds has remained anonymous, but some of the works have a byline that reads "Flower Offensive 2014." The flowers are a welcome sight after the long, cold winter. *Photos by Kristal Leebrick*

District 12 zoning proposal meets opposition

St. Anthony Park Community Council may form group to study housing density in District 12

By Kristal Leebrick

The St. Anthony Park Community Council has tabled a proposal to change the zoning code in north St. Anthony Park to allow additional dwelling units to be built on single-family lots. The council is considering creating an ad hoc committee or task force to study housing density in District 12 and hear neighbors' views about the zoning proposal.

Nearly two dozen residents attended the community council's regular meeting on April 10 to express their opposition to zoning code changes in the neighborhood. The council had not planned to review the proposal on April 10 but had intended to hear a report from the District 12 Land Use Committee, which met the week before.

The Land Use Committee was to hear a proposal on April 3 by the Land Use Efficiency interest group (not an official committee of the District 12 Community Council) to change the zoning code to allow property owners to build

additional dwelling units—small separate units or attached additions to an existing home. The units could provide living space for aging parents, caregivers or seniors looking to downsize but stay on their property, proponents say.

More than 60 residents crowded into the meeting space at South St. Anthony Rec Center on April 3 to state their opposition to or support of the proposal.

The Land Use Committee did not review the proposal that night but instead allowed the crowd to give statements and ask questions about the proposal and the community council process in St. Paul.

The Land Use Efficiency interest group is part of a larger initiative in District 12 called Transition Town ASAP. A group of residents formed Transition Town ASAP in 2013 to look at ways residents of St. Anthony Park could reduce their reliance on fossil fuels. The initiative established nine working groups tasked with projects that include establishing communal solar power grids, sustainable gardening and food production,

transportation and land use efficiency.

Land Use Efficiency group members met one-on-one with several dozen area residents in August and September 2013 to assess interest in pursuing a zoning change to allow accessory dwellings on properties currently zoned as single-family. The group also conducted two public meetings, in November and in

January, at Luther Seminary. The group's draft ordinance was made public in late March and is posted on the District 12 website at sapcc.org/adus.

Residents interested in being involved in a group that would examine the issue should send an email to Amy Sparks, District 12 executive director, at amy@sapcc.org.

15 for its 15th

Saint Anthony Park Community Foundation announces \$15,000 grant challenge

In honor of its 15th anniversary, the Saint Anthony Park Community Foundation is hosting a \$15,000 grant challenge. The competition will open May 11 with an announcement at the special Music in the Park/Community Foundation anniversary concerts featuring the New Standards.

Foundation grants chair Bruce Weber said the board decided to celebrate 15 years as a granting organization by inviting the community to come up with ideas to

improve St. Anthony Park.

"We wanted to challenge our existing nonprofits as well as individual neighbors to think longer term about what makes this community great and how we can support new ideas to keep it that way," he said.

To encourage that long-range creativity, the \$15,000 will be paid out over three years with the first \$5,000 awarded this fall.

Grant challenge to 8

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 Historic Streetcar Station, 1224 N. Lexington Parkway.

Nominate your favorite Como tree

It's time to nominate your favorite neighborhood tree for a Como Tree Appreciation Award. The District 10 Environment Committee is sponsoring the awards as a way to treasure our valuable trees and promote tree planting. Nominate a residential tree—big or small, old or new, yours or a neighbor's—at district10comopark.org/nominateatree.html. Nominations will be accepted through May 25. Winners will be notified by late June.

Spring fire safety fair

The District 10 Como Community Council and St. Paul Fire Department are hosting a free spring

fire safety fair on Saturday, April 26, 9:30–11:30 a.m., at the Historic Streetcar Station, 1224 N. Lexington Parkway.

Children and families can explore a fire truck, meet firefighters and take part in a variety of fun and educational activities designed to promote fire safety.

For more information, call 651-644-3889.

Neighborhood garage sale

The annual Como Park Neighborhood Garage Sale will be held Saturday, May 17. Last year, more than 50 sales across the neighborhood offered great deals and fun browsing. A sale guide and map will be available for downloading on district10comopark.org.

Sale registration (\$10 before April 25/\$15 after) will be available on the website through May 9.

Pollinator-friendly gardens

District 10 Como Community

Council will host the final Sunday Speaker Series on April 27 at 1 p.m. at the Twin Cities German Immersion School, 1031 Como Ave. Join author and blogger Heather Holm as she covers the types of native pollinators that visit our gardens and shares tips on how to foster all parts of their life cycles, including providing food, water and nesting habitat.

Holm is the author of the newly released book *Pollinators of Native Plants* and is the owner of a small landscape design and consulting business, specializing in native landscapes.

Joining Holm will be Deepa Nirmal, a Como Park neighbor who will share her personal experience in making her yard and garden greener and more pollinator-friendly, and Frank Dolejsi, a Ramsey County Master Gardener who will present information on free resources available through the Master Gardener program.

District 10 annual meeting

District 10 Como Community Council held its annual election at its annual meeting on April 15.

The following members were elected to the board of directors: Chris Harkness, vice chair; Curt Stock, Subdistrict 1; Kim Moon, Subdistrict 2; Debra Pursley, Subdistrict 3, Bill Lipkin, Subdistrict 4; and Tedd James and Mary Michalski, at large. Kevin Dahm ran in a special election to fill a seat in Subdistrict 4. The treasurer's position remains open.

Falcon Heights

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

Lions Club bike drive

Do you have an unused bicycle that is gathering dust and taking up space in your garage or storage area? Donate it to Cycles for Change, where it will be refurbished and put into the hands of someone who will use it.

The Falcon Heights-Lauderdale Lions Club, in conjunction with Cycles for Change, is holding a bike drive on Saturday, May 10, 10 a.m.–2 p.m., at the Falcon Heights City Hall parking lot, 2077 Larpentour Ave.

Cycles for Change (cyclesforchange.org) is a nonprofit community bike shop located in the Frogtown area of St. Paul. Even bikes beyond repair will be stripped of usable parts and recycled in a responsible manner.

Card club

The Falconeers Card Club meets the second and fourth Mondays of the month at 1 p.m. at the Falcon Heights City Hall. All are invited to attend.

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.

City-wide garage sale

Lauderdale's annual garage sale will be held Saturday, May 17. Residents must call City Hall at 651-792-7650 by May 9 to register their sale location and let city staff members know if they have items of special interest to list.

The sale is a great way to get rid of items, meet neighbors and find good deals. There is no charge to register and the city does the promotion. A list of garage sale locations will be available at City Hall, 1891 Walnut St., the week before the event.

If you are having a garage sale, don't forget to put a garage sale sign in your yard. Sales may begin at 8 a.m.

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 generally meets at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month. Email erg@sapcc.org to find out the location and date each month. The Environment Committee meets at 7 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of the month at SSA. The Transportation Committee meets the first Monday of the month at SSA.

St. Anthony Park Arts Festival

The 45th annual neighborhood arts festival will be held along Como Avenue on Saturday, June 7, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Artists from all over come to display and sell their work at this neighborhood event that helps support summer reading programs and activities at the St. Anthony Park Library.

Come enjoy the work of 72 artists, as well as kids activities, food

vendors, collaborative art activities and more. There is also a used book sale and plant sale at the event.

Kasota Pond Cleanup

Join your friends and neighbors at the annual Kasota Pond Cleanup on Saturday, April 26, 9 a.m.–1 p.m. Celebrate Earth Day with fun and educational offerings for the whole family, as well as snacks and refreshments.

Meet at the parking lot west of Highway 280 on the south side of Energy Park Drive. Come for an hour or all day.

Email Lauren@sapcc.org for more information.

Board openings

There is an open seat for a high school student on the St. Anthony Park board of directors. It's a great opportunity for any high school student who lives in the neighborhood to be introduced to the world of civic engagement and to have a meaningful impact on the community.

The board of directors recently voted to create two student seats, and one has been filled. There is also one opening for a delegate from north St. Anthony Park as well as openings for business delegates on the board. Email amy@sapcc.org for more information.

Green Line launch party

Friday, April 25, is the deadline to sign up to help with the Green Line light-rail line launch party on Saturday, June 14.

District 12 is looking for volunteers, musicians, artists, business owners and more who are interested in being involved in the festivities. With up to 300,000 people expected to ride the rail that day, it's a great opportunity to put the neighborhood and all it has to offer on full display.

Email amy@sapcc.org to get involved.

Donate your used books, CDs, DVDs to library book sale

The St. Anthony Park Library Association is seeking donations for its annual book sale to be held during the St. Anthony Park Arts Festival on Saturday, June 7.

The association is looking for books, CDs and DVDs that are in good condition. Textbooks, magazines, cassette tapes and VHS tapes will not be accepted.

You can leave donations at the book cart in the lower level of the St. Anthony Park Library, 2245 Como Ave. (just outside the auditorium).

Place your books, whether in bags, boxes or stacks, on or near the cart. Please don't put the items in the library's book return.

The money raised from the sale goes directly toward library programs and facility improvements. The library association has helped maintain the children's Summer Reading Program, improve landscaping around the building, and fund the annual Silent Movie Night and weekly story times for children.

For more information, or if you have a large number of items to donate and would like them picked up, please e-mail Susan Dean at smdean16@gmail.com.

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Como Park grads say college in Abu Dhabi is ‘suprisingly’ normal

By Kyle Mianulli

For many college-bound seniors, graduation day means the beginning of a new adventure: a new phase of life bereft of the watchful eyes of parents and a chance to be on their own and to live life on their own terms.

As a member of the 2010 graduating class at Como Park Senior High School, Amelia Kahn was in just that position. Her new adventure, however, would take her halfway around the world to the brand new Abu Dhabi campus of New York University (NYU) in the United Arab Emirates.

This spring Amelia will be part of the first graduating class from NYU Abu Dhabi—a collaborative effort between the world-class university in New York and the government of Abu Dhabi to establish a globalized research institution with a strong liberal arts program at its core.

“It’s not the average college choice, and it’s not the average college, for sure,” she said.

The school actively recruits top students from all over the world. Amelia and another former Como student, Dean Shaff—now a sophomore at NYU Abu Dhabi—are two the admissions staff took a particular interest in. Both were given full ride scholarships, including room, board and airfare for breaks.

A multicultural education

Having a global student body representing a multitude of ethnic, religious and cultural backgrounds is a central offering for NYU Abu Dhabi. The 148 students admitted to Amelia’s class of 2014 come from 40 countries across five continents.

“That was something I was



NYU Abu Dhabi sophomore Dean Shaff on a desert dune. Photo by Raj-Krishan Mistry

looking for,” Amelia said, speaking of the school’s diversity. “A lot of colleges in the U.S. offer a multicultural life center, but really, that’s extra. Here, it’s a core part of the experience.”

It’s something Amelia and Dean both live everyday. One of Amelia’s roommates is from Ethiopia, another is from Brunei, while the fourth comes from Vietnam.

“That’s pretty par for the course here,” she said, recounting a particularly poignant moment when she and her Vietnamese roommate explained the Vietnam War to another housemate.

“St. Paul is a pretty diverse city, but I found a lot of the

viewpoints I grew up with challenged at a very fundamental level,” she said.

For example, she was surprised to find many of her classmates found her use of the term “American” in reference to her nationality to be misappropriated. Many thought it ought to refer to someone from the American continent as a whole. The preferred demonym, rather, is U.S.-American.

“It was something I had never considered,” she said.

From issues surrounding the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, to the western image of the oppressed Muslim woman, having

Abu Dhabi to 10

Luther Seminary elects new president

The Luther Seminary board of directors has elected the Rev. Dr. Robin J. Steinke to be the seminary’s next president. Steinke is the first woman to be named president in the seminary’s 145-year history.

Steinke will succeed the Rev. Rick Foss, who has served as interim president since December 2012. She will take office on June 1.

Steinke is currently the dean and a professor of theological ethics and public life at Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, Penn., where she has served since 1999. She previously served as an Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) pastor, a training manager and financial planner at American Express Financial Advisors, and a middle school band director in Marietta, Ga.

A graduate of Augustana College in Sioux Falls, S.D., Steinke holds a master of divinity and a master of sacred theology from Trinity Lutheran Seminary in



The Rev. Robin J. Steinke

Columbus, Ohio. She received her Ph.D. from the University of Cambridge in England.

Steinke co-chairs the national ELCA Theological Education Advisory Council that is evaluating and exploring the future of theological education. She serves as the ELCA representative to the Lutheran World Federation Council and chairs their endowment fund. She is a member of the ELCA Ecclesiology Task Force and serves on a number of other church and academic committees. In June, she will conclude her six-year term as a commissioner for the Association of Theological Schools’ Commission on Accrediting.

Luther Seminary, located in St. Anthony Park, is one of eight seminaries in the ELCA.

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LETTERS

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Spring!

Thanks to the inspired community artist who brought spring to St. Anthony Park with brightly colored, cardboard flowers on utility poles. They make me smile.

*Val Cervenka
St. Anthony Park*

Falcon Heights mayor, council applauded for tobacco policy

I want to commend Falcon Heights Mayor Peter Lindstrom and the entire Falcon Heights City Council for their recent commitment to protect our local youths by updating the city tobacco ordinances. Interestingly, soon after these changes were made, the pharmacy chain CVS announced it would no longer sell tobacco in its stores. These kinds of measures are all important in creating a healthy community.

The council's recent decision to require a minimum age of 18 for anyone selling tobacco or tobacco products greatly reduces the peer pressure youth employees often feel to sell to other minors. Our city leaders have consistently shown they have our youths' best interests in mind with the decisions they make. They have taken steps that help protect our youths from a lifelong addiction to nicotine and the many devastating health, financial and other problems that go with such an addiction.

Again, thanks to the mayor and council for maintaining and improving the great quality of life we have in Falcon Heights.

*Nancy Strege
Falcon Heights*

Como Park Cougars hockey team needs a home rink

I live in St. Anthony Park and I am a sophomore at St. Paul Central High School. I play hockey for the Como Park/Central Cougars.

For the past many years, Como Park/Central high school hockey teams practiced and played home games as guests of the Warner Coliseum at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds. Next year, we have

nowhere to play. In December, we were told that due to deterioration of ice-making equipment, there will no longer be ice at the historic coliseum.

So we turned to Ramsey County, which controls the public arenas and allocates ice to our schools. As a "solution," the county has offered us West Side Arena.

West Side Arena is 10 miles away from St. Anthony Park, my neighborhood. Central gets out of school at 2 p.m. I then take a 40-minute bus ride home. For me to get to the West Side and get dressed in 20 minutes for a 3 o'clock practice would be a small miracle.

At the moment, the Como Park/Central hockey team is a solid urban program, from over 100 households in the central part of St. Paul between St. Anthony Park and Ramsey Hill. And we need your help.

Coach Bakken, Coach Beach and Coach Karl are the three best coaches I have had the pleasure of working with. My teammates are the same kids who taught me how to skate at Langford Park in the fifth grade, who brought me up when I was having a bad game. They are good student athletes with a high team grade point average.

We had three conference wins (and 12 nonconference wins) last year. Como Park and Johnson are the only two public schools in our conference. The other six, including Blake, Breck, St. Paul Academy and Mounds Park, are private.

Como hockey has a lot of tradition, and I am proud each time I put on that black-and-yellow Cougars jersey. A failure to find a suitable home rink could kill St. Paul Central/Como Park hockey. Kids like me, who played at Langford, would have to look outside the city public schools to find a program to play for in high school.

We know there are better options that could be made available. Mr. Searles, the athletic director at Como Park High School, has proposed a scenario in which we play at Oscar Johnson Arena. We call it O.J. Located conveniently between Central and Como Park, O.J. provides a better facility and equity.

We want an equitable local rink

in our community. We want the same thing that Johnson has at the Gustafson-Phalen or what Highland Park High School has at Charles M. Schulz-Highland Arena—close proximity to their schools and communities.

Let our Ramsey County officials know how you feel, because it's a lot harder to say no to 100 people than one kid from St. Paul Central.

*Sebastian Tippet
St. Anthony Park*

'Everything I know about hockey I learned at Langford'

As I am not particularly athletic or competitive, it did not surprise my relatives and friends on the East Coast when I mentioned that one of my daughters was playing hockey on one of the most laid-back teams (Langford Park) at the most laid-back level (C) in St. Paul.

They were surprised, however, when I explained that she still had practice or a game four or five times a week.

Often outside.

And she is only 12.

And this was her eighth season.

There was always a pause in the conversation at this point while they did the math to figure out that she was 5 when she started. Only in Minnesota.

Since her club is co-ed and playing another year would involve 160-pound ninth-grade boys checking her into the boards, this was her last season at Langford Park, and now that it is over I am feeling nostalgic.

Neither my wife nor I were hockey people. We were only interested because the outdoor rink was a three-minute walk from our house. As a result, everything I know about hockey I learned at Langford Park.

I learned that 5- to 13-year-old boys are surprisingly well behaved when it comes to the small minority of girls on the team. Once the helmets are on, they cheer and fist-bump the girls just as much as the boys. Maybe they should keep the helmets on all the time.

I learned that neither city staff nor ice elves maintain the outdoor rinks, but rather rotating crews of parents and neighbors, including some who have been doing it for 30-plus years.

I am clearly not the sharpest skate in the hockey bag because it took me a year to figure out why we scored so rarely on power plays. At Langford Park all the kids play equally—there is no "power play" squad stacked with the best players that comes out to take advantage when a player on the opposing team heads to the penalty box. Unlike Ogilvie and Lupus in the *Bad News Bears*, no one on a Langford Park team sits on the bench longingly until the coach has an epiphany during the last game of the season to play everyone.

I also learned that a 12-year-old girl (one of my other daughters) is better at operating the clock and scoreboard than a 42-year-old man. Better than this 42-year-old man anyway.

More important, perhaps what I learned in eight years at Langford Park Hockey is relevant to life in general:

1. Treat everyone the same.
2. Large groups of people need to work together to make something great.
3. Give everyone a chance.
4. Don't try to compete with a 12-year-old girl.

*Derek Fried
St. Anthony Park*

Nostalgia, pride and passion

I read the Letters to the Editor regarding the possible zoning code changes in St. Anthony Park and had to smile. The pride we/you have in this special place is evident, with several letters stating how long the writer has lived in SAP. I wonder how many other newspapers get passionate letters stating how long a person has lived in the area. Such a strong sense of ownership and pride for those who live in SAP. I love it!

Letters to 5

The Bugle seeks board candidates

The Park Bugle is seeking candidates to fill openings on its board of directors.

The board consists of residents and business owners from the communities served by the newspaper. We especially encourage candidates from the Como Park neighborhood and the cities of Lauderdale and Falcon Heights to achieve geographic balance on the board.

Skills and background desired:

- Organizational or management skills, especially with nonprofits, including board service
- Fundraising and grant-writing experience, a strong connection to the community and the ability to comfortably approach potential donors
- Advertising experience, specifically sales, to support our sales representatives
- Legal expertise
- Website development

Other opportunities:

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If you want to help shape the strategic direction of your local, award-winning, nonprofit newspaper, either on the board or a committee, send a short note and biography to editor@parkbugle.org, with DIRECTORS in the subject line. Or send a letter to Park Bugle, P.O. Box 8126, St. Paul, MN 55108, Attn: Directors.

C O M M E N T A R Y

Forty years a Minnesotan

By Adam Granger

I often walk my dog past an empty lot in St Anthony Park, where 1468 Raymond Ave. once stood. The concrete stairs leading off the front

sidewalk are still there, a tree growing in their midst, but the house is long gone and the lot has been incorporated into a neighbor's yard. My mother was born in that house on Aug. 9, 1919. My



The steps leading to the spot where 1468 Raymond Ave. used to be.

grandparents lived there while their permanent residence, designed by my Norwegian grandfather, the architect Magnus Jemne, was being built on the corner of Mount Curve Boulevard and Sargent Avenue in St. Paul.

My grandmother was a second-generation German-English St. Paulite named Elsa Laubach. Under her married name, Elsa Jemne was a painter of sufficient stature to have had one-woman shows at the Walker Art Center and, in the '30s, she got commissions to do about a dozen Works Progress Administration (WPA) murals. (Her murals in the old Stearns County Courthouse, the old St. Joseph's Hospital in St. Paul, the old NSP building and the old Ladysmith post office in Wisconsin all disappeared when the buildings housing them disappeared; her two surviving murals are in the Minneapolis armory and the Ely post office.)

Elsa and Magnus collaborated on the Women's City Club—now called the Jemne Building—at Kellogg Boulevard and St. Peter Street in downtown St. Paul, and on their two daughters, one of whom was my mother.

Mom married Dad and moved with him to Ithaca, N.Y. (where my brother was born), then to Madison, Wis. (where I was born), and then to Denver. They finally settled, when I was 3, in Norman, Okla., where Dad was an English professor at the University of Oklahoma.

Thus did I find myself every

summer—and some winters—between 1953 and 1963 traveling to St. Paul to stay for a chunk of time with my grandparents. It's an understatement to say that these trips were the high points of my young life. The magic would start on the night we were to leave. My brother and I would go to bed at the normal time and then be awakened at about 11 p.m. to make a groggy, dreamy 30-mile drive to the Chickasha train station, where we'd board the Rock Island Rocket at midnight. Although it hadn't been written yet, I felt like the kid in *The Polar Express*. We'd hit Kansas City in midmorning, and after passing through Mason City, Iowa, and Albert Lea, Minn., we'd roll into the Union Depot in St. Paul anytime between 6 p.m. and midnight.

My decade of train travel coincided with the decline and disappearance of private passenger railroads, and aboard the ironically named Rock Island Rocket there was a lot of evidence of decrepitude, from the seat upholstery to the rails to the engines to the rolling stock. The dining car was run by the same dignified gentleman the entire time, he and his dark blue suit growing shabbier with each passing year.

To a kid from the hot, dry, flat, red-dirt plains of central Oklahoma, Minnesota was Shangri-La: The weather was cool, the people talked with a mysterious almost-foreign accent, the neighborhood children I hung with were above-average, and there were lots of trees and even more

lakes. And my grandparents' house and grounds were as different as could be from our four-square Oklahoma house and dirt yard. The main floor was dominated by the exotica of Elsa's studio and Magnus's drafting office, and 212 Mount Curve saw a steady stream of eccentric and notable artists such as painters Clement Haupers and Clara Mars and printmaker George Resler, as well as Maggie's poker-playing buddies—quirky personages all, who likely wouldn't have even been allowed into the state of Oklahoma.

A walk down the hill took one to the Mississippi River, and a walk up the hill to King's Pharmacy, on the corner of St. Clair and Cleveland avenues, which had Chum Gum (three sticks for a penny), Jujubes and Pine Brothers cough drops—none of which was available in Oklahoma.

What was not to love?

As a bonus, my grandparents owned a cabin up north (which my nephews and I now own). It was designed and built in 1931 by Magnus, and I've got pictures of him and another man using hand tools to construct it. They built it on land homesteaded by my sad-sack Great-grandfather Laubach in 1917. I have the original homestead application receipt from the Department of the Interior in Duluth, which shows that he paid a \$5.31 fee for 40 acres, 1,400 feet of which bordered the eastern shore of Big Sandy Lake in Aitkin County. It was the smartest

Commentary to 8

Letters from 4

I don't have any strong opinion one way or the other as far as the zoning code goes. I can think right off the top of my head of four houses built on land between houses in St. Anthony Park as I was growing up. It's too bad to see extra land lost to new houses being built on open land, but it has been going on since St. Anthony Park was first platted.

We certainly don't want to experience overcrowding of

structures that take away the ambiance of the neighborhood.

It is with great sadness I learn about the passing of those who lived in SAP in the 1930s, 1940s, 1950s and onward. They also took great pride in their neighborhood and played a part in how it is today. It brings me a sense of nostalgia and a longing for a time in St. Anthony Park that is now long gone.

And what about me you may ask? I am so thankful my grandparents moved to St. Anthony

Park, a place where both my parents and siblings grew up. I take great pride in having grown up in such a place.

I'm thankful we continue to have neighbors who are passionate about this special place. We all only want the best.

Barbara Hartwick
Falcon Heights
formerly St. Anthony Park



Meet the Bugle's new sales team

We'd like you to meet our new advertising representatives, Bradley Max Wolfe (left) and Clare Caffrey (right). Bradley will be selling in the Bugle's north territory (businesses and organizations on the north side of Como Avenue and beyond). Clare will represent businesses and organizations on the south side of Como Avenue and beyond. You can contact Bradley at bradley.wolfe@parkbugle.org (or call 952-393-6814) and Clare at clare.caffrey@parkbugle.org (or call 651-270-5988). We also say goodbye to our longtime reps Genevieve Plagens and Ruth Weleccki. We'll miss you, Ruth and Genevieve.

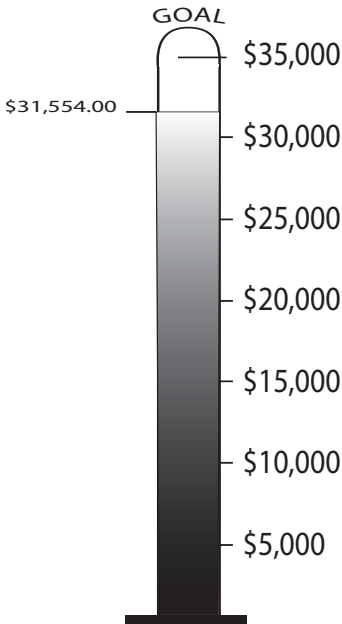
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Thanks to the following Park Bugle readers who contributed to the Bugle's 2013-14 fund drive in the last month. The Bugle relies on tax-deductible donations to help defray the newspaper's annual operating costs. Our goal this year is to raise \$35,000. If you haven't contributed to the fund drive, you still can. Donate online at www.parkbugle.org (click the green DONATE NOW button at the top of the page) or send a check to Park Bugle, P.O. Box 8126, St. Paul, MN 55108.

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Wanted: An ice arena to call home

Como Park/Central Cougars hockey team is looking for a place to hang their banner

By Kristal Leebrick

The Como Park/Central Cougars boys' hockey team is looking for a new rink to hang the team's banner. But getting the rink the team wants is a matter that remains in flux.

The Cougars had been practicing and playing for 15 years at the Lee & Rose Warner Coliseum at the Minnesota state fairgrounds. The state fair announced in December that it would no longer maintain the ice at the coliseum and closed the arena in February.

That's left the Cougars scrambling to find a new home.

Michael Searles, Como Park's athletic director who manages the combined Como Park/Central high school teams as well as the St. Paul Blades girls hockey team, has requested that Oscar Johnson (O.J.) Arena on Energy Park Drive near Snelling Avenue become the new home for both the boys' and the girls' teams. The Blades is a cooperative team made up of junior and senior high school players from across the

city.

O.J. is the arena that is closest to Como Park and St. Paul Central high schools and most of the players' homes, Searles said. The Blades have been playing at West Side Arena for a number of years, but Searles wants the girls team to move to O.J. with the Cougars. He'd also like to see an upgrade of facilities at O.J. to accommodate the teams.

Most of the after-school ice times (3 to 5 p.m.) at the Energy Park Drive arena go to its two major tenants, Hamline University and Roseville Area High School, according to Greg Mack, Ramsey County director of parks and recreation. The county has a letter of agreement with Hamline and plans to continue giving the university priority hours.

The county—which operates 10 arenas, with seven in St. Paul—has offered Searles the use of the Ken Yackel West Side Arena, 44 W. Isabel St., for practices and games at three different arenas in the city. The county has also offered O.J. for one

practice a week.

Searles said he's concerned that if high school players have to travel across town right after school, students and parents may move to a program that's closer to home. For students in the St. Anthony Park and Como Park neighborhoods, "it's probably a shorter drive to Roseville," Searles said. He wants St. Paul kids stay in St. Paul schools, he said.

Nearly 30 parents and players from the Como/Central and Blades teams attended the St. Paul Public

Schools Board of Education meeting on April 15 to urge board members to help the teams negotiate with the county. Parent Mark Tully read a statement outlining the team's desire for a rink close to the schools and a place they can call home.

The 2014-15 school hockey season is going to be a "transitional year," said Mack. "Right now there are a number of moving parts."

Ramsey County is in negotiations to buy the Vadnais Heights Sports Center, Mack said.

And in early April, the North St. Paul Area Hockey Association announced it was working on a merger with the St. Paul Johnson Como Hockey Association. That merger could free up ice time at Gustafson-Phalen Ice Arena near St. Paul's Johnson Senior High School and the Vadnais arena may be attractive to Roseville programs if the deal goes through, Mack said.

"There may be opportunities," Mack said. "We're waiting for things to sort out a bit."

Summer activities at Langford and Northwest Como rec centers

Youth summer sports registration for T-ball, Nearball, lacrosse, softball and baseball at Langford and Northwest Como recreation centers runs through Saturday, April 30. Registration will be taken past the deadline if there are vacancies.

You can register online at www.stpaul.gov/parks or by calling the rec centers and using a credit card. Call Langford at 651-298-5765 or Northwest Como at 651-298-5813.

Here is a list of summer activities at the two centers:

Langford

Cooking: Bread Baking, ages 8-13, begins Thursday, July 24, 6-8 p.m., \$20 for two sessions.

Cooking: Mini Chefs, ages 8-13, begins Thursday, June 19, 6:30-7:30 p.m., \$10 for two sessions.

Martial Arts: Karate/Soo Bahk Do, Youth lessons, ages 6-15, begin Thursday, June 5, \$45 a month. Adult lessons, ages 16 and older, begin Thursday, June 5, \$55 a month.

Pilates, adults, Thursdays, beginning May 29. Beginning, 12:15-1:15 p.m., 10 sessions. Fee is \$73 or \$71 for seniors. Intermediate, 11 a.m.-noon, 10 sessions. Fee is \$72 or \$71 for seniors.

Camps

Badminton, ages 12-15, seven sessions begin Friday, June 20, 4-6 p.m. Free.

Clay, ages 3 1/2-6, Monday-Friday, 9-10:30 a.m., starts Aug. 11, \$45.

Art: Super Sloppy Fun, ages 3 1/2-6, Monday-Friday, starts July 1, \$40.

Outdoors: A-Camping We Will Go, ages 3 1/2-6, Monday-Friday, 10:30 a.m.-noon, starts July 14, \$40.

Outdoors: Storytime Adventures, ages 4-7, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-noon, starts June 23, \$60.

Science: Basics to Building & Structural Engineering, ages 4-6, Monday-Wednesday, 9:30-11:30 a.m., starts July 28, \$70.

Theatre & Art: Super Hero—Super You, ages 3 1/2-6, Monday-Friday, 10:30 a.m.-noon, starts Aug. 4, \$40.

Theatre & Art: Twist & Shout, ages 3 1/2-6, Monday-Friday, 9-10:30 a.m., starts Aug. 4, \$40.

Drawing and Painting, ages 6-12, Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-noon, starts July 21, \$50.

Schoolhouse Chess, ages 6-12, Monday-Thursday, 1-3 p.m., starts July 21, \$81.

Chemistry—Kids in the Lab, ages 6-10, Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-noon, starts July 28, \$81.

Science: Flight Academy, ages 6-12, Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-noon, starts Aug. 18, \$81.

Science: Kaleidoscope, ages 6-12, Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-noon, starts July 7, \$91.

Basketball, ages 6-12, Monday-

Thursday, 9 a.m.-noon, starts June 9, \$79.

Baseball, Soccer & Basketball, ages 6-9, Monday-Thursday, 1:30-4:30 p.m., starts July 21. Fee is \$60. Dodge Ball, ages 13-17, Tuesdays, 3:30-5 p.m., starts June 17. Free.

Northwest Como

Computer camp: Minecrafting, grades 2-6, Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-noon, starts Aug. 18, \$110.

Computer camp: Star Wars Battle-Droids Camp, grades 4-8, Monday-Friday, 12:30-2:30 p.m., starts Aug. 18, \$110.

Got Goo Art Class, ages 4-9, Wednesday, 1:30-3:30 p.m., Aug. 20 \$25.

Hip Hop for Boys, ages 8-12, Monday-Friday, 11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m., starts July 14, \$30.

Tween Jazz/Ballet/Hip Hop, ages 11-14, Monday-Friday, 9:45-10:45 p.m., starts July 14, \$30.

Tae Kwon Do, ages 6 & older, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4:30-5:30, ongoing, \$50 a month.

Artist Workshop, ages 5 & older, Monday and Wednesday, begins June 23, \$80 for 12 sessions.

Ladies Night Out Art Class, adults, Friday, Aug. 1, 6:30-9 p.m., \$35.

You Are the Actor, ages 5-12, Monday-Friday, 6-8 p.m., begins June 16, \$50 for 5 sessions.

Sports camps: basketball, soccer, volleyball, badminton, ultimate frisbee, flag football, snag golf, rugby, see the schedule online at www.stpaulgov/documentcenter/view/71658.

Archery Camp, grades 3-12 completed, Monday-Friday, 8:30-10:30 a.m., begins June 16, \$60.

Yoga, ages 3-12, morning times vary, Monday-Friday, starts July 21, \$30.

Tumbling, ages 3-10, morning times vary, Monday-Friday, starts July 28, \$30.

Mini Hawk multi-sports camp, ages 4-7, 9 a.m.-noon, Monday-Thursday, starts Aug. 11, \$79.

Clay, ages 8-14, 10 a.m.-noon, Monday-Friday, starts Aug. 11, \$75.

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Salmon in Lake Como?

Well, briefly, but the lake was home to some mighty big northerns in the past

By Roger Bergerson

Lake Como has always been on the small side, even when it was one-third bigger than now. But it's been providing anglers with action since the early days of Minnesota's statehood.

Too much action, maybe. A newspaper in the 1860s noted that a couple of "sportsmen" had taken several hundred fish with hook and line from there in just three hours.

One of the species in the lake back then was the northern pike, or pickerel, as it was then known.

"Two ladies went out to Como yesterday for the purpose of getting pond lilies," reported the St. Paul Daily Pioneer in the summer of 1869. "There happened to be in the boat a couple of trolling lines. One of the ladies, just for the fun of the thing, took up one of them and threw the hook overboard.

"It floated off not more than 20 feet before a pickerel nearly two feet in length snapped the hook. The bite was so unexpected and savage that it almost threw her overboard. She hallooed [*sic*] but stuck to the line and pulled him in like a little hero."

The paper added that her friend caught a fish of similar size, and "both ladies returned to town with their game and so proud of their success that they would hardly speak to their best friends."

It's hard to believe now, but huge northerns were caught in Lake Como, including a 32-pound whopper landed by Col. August Knauff (or Knauff, as newspapers tended to spell it). Knauff, the proprietor of the Lake Como House, put the monster on display at a downtown hotel, probably hoping to lure anglers to his resort.

Concerns about overfishing prompted the Minnesota Legislature to establish a Fish Commission in 1874. Shortly thereafter, funding was appropriated to establish the first state-run hatchery below the bluffs of Mounds Park.

The Fish Commission was dedicated to maintaining the fish populations of the state's rivers, lakes and streams, as well as improving on the mix of species in them, mainly to draw tourists and anglers.

The thinking at the time was that any "desirable" fish species could and should be introduced wherever possible. (Steven R. Hoffbeck offers more detail in his article "Without Careful Consideration: Why Carp Swim in Minnesota's Waters," Minnesota History, Summer 2001.)

The commission had its successes, but one of its earliest and most intensive efforts—to introduce various species of salmon statewide—failed utterly. It was never explained where the fish would go (Hudson Bay? The Gulf of Mexico?) to spawn.

In retrospect, one of the most peculiar choices for this stocking program was Lake Como. Five hundred salmon fry were placed there, possibly winding up as supper for the northern. Whatever the case, no fully grown salmon were ever



When Lake Como was promoted as a resort destination, William B. Aldrich owned its most prominent hotel, the Aldrich Hotel, located near the site of today's Lakeside Pavilion. It was known as the Lake Como House when it burned to the ground in 1883. *Minnesota Historical Society*

recorded in the lake.

The struggle to keep water in Lake Como in the late 19th and early 20th centuries has been well documented elsewhere (see cpa.comopark.us/attachments/ComoHistoryWalk_extended.pdf).

Even after the lake level was stabilized, water quality became an ongoing issue, as was dense aquatic vegetation.

Lake Como fishing has revived in recent decades, however, beginning in 1985 when the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) removed rough fish from the lake. The DNR restocked with largemouth bass, walleye and bluegill sunfish, and an

aerator was installed to minimize winter fish kills.

Currently, the stocking emphasis is on bluegills and channel catfish. A 2011 DNR study showed both species were well represented, as well as walleyes and, you guessed it, northern pike. The latter, however, come nowhere close to matching the size of their legendary predecessors.

People fish from the DNR pier on the south end of the lake, at the dock at the Lakeside Pavilion or on a level spot on the shoreline.

"Como ... is a great lake for fast bluegill action," according to a DNR publication. "All one needs is a hook, bobber and some worms or corn."

Good luck, anglers.

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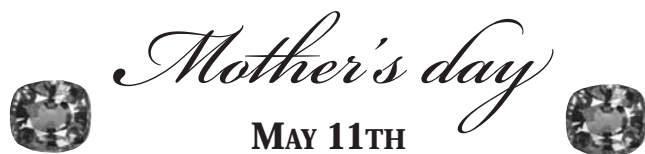
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St. Anthony Park Area Seniors wants to know what seniors want

By Michelle Christianson

St. Anthony Park Area Seniors is launching a study with a Wilder Foundation research team to find out what prospective clients may want from the organization.

St. Anthony Park Area Seniors (SAPAS) began as the St. Anthony Park Block Nurse Program in 1981 with the aim of helping seniors stay in their homes.

But health care services have changed and many of the nursing and home-health pieces of the program have been taken over by other medical and social organizations. Now, the group is looking for new ways to serve the community with social and support

services.

SAPAS plans to ask baby boomers and beyond what they would like to see offered during a series of focus group meetings that will meet in May and June. The focus groups will be led by SAPAS board members.

There will be eight groups: four for north St. Anthony Park residents and one each for Lauderdale-Falcon Heights, south St. Anthony Park, area businesses and key informants such as St. Anthony Park Library staff.

SAPAS still offers services for seniors, including exercise classes, rides to health care appointments, Meals on Wheels and many social activities. (A complete listing may be

found at sapaseniors.org) But SAPAS board chair Mary Beck said there are other possibilities that have not been explored, such as yoga classes, book groups, travel opportunities and neighborhood locations for university classes.

People may want help negotiating the Medicare maze, finding caregiving or caregiver respite services, or dealing with the transition from full-time work to retirement. The possibilities are endless, Beck said.

SAPAS will present results at a neighborhood forum on Sept. 16. Anyone interested in being part of the focus groups should call Beck at 651-644-2816.

Organist Kathryn Ulviden Moen to play solo concert in May

Kathryn Ulviden Moen will play a solo organ recital at Oak Grove Lutheran Church in Richfield at 3 p.m. Sunday, May 4. The program is part of the Thursday Musical Community Concerts series.

Moen will share the program with Nicola Melville, a music faculty member at Carlton College in Northfield. Melville will play a number of piano solos.

Moen, who lives in University

Grove, was the organist and choir director at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church for 19 years before joining the music faculty at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls in the early 1970s. She taught there for 36 years before retiring six years ago. A graduate of Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, Moen served on the faculty there for 11 years before marrying and moving to Minnesota.

Thursday Musical has been

presenting classical music programs in the Twin Cities since 1892, when a group of 12 Minneapolis women established the organization. Initially called the Ladies Thursday Musicales, the group was modeled on other musical clubs, including the then-10-year-old Schubert Club in St. Paul.

The group supports three recital series: the Thursday Morning Artist Series, Home Programs and Community Concerts.

Grant challenge from 1

Jon Schumacher, the foundation's longtime executive director, hopes the competition

sparks the creative imagination of all neighbors and breathes some fresh air into the granting process.

"I think we can sometimes get in a bit of a rut around our annual grant cycle," Schumacher stated. "This is a chance to do something different and really get the community involved in the process."

The competition is open to any individual or group that serves the District 12 area of St. Paul. Submissions will be accepted from May 11 to July 31.

At that time, the foundation board will select the top three entries based on the following criteria: originality, degree of impact and feasibility of implementation.

Those three entries will be made public Aug. 11 and community members will have a chance to vote for their favorite until Aug. 31.

The winner will be announced at the foundation's anniversary party scheduled for Friday, Sept. 19.

Application forms and information are available on the foundation's website at sapfoundation.org.

The organization's 15th anniversary is a chance to honor the entire community, said Erica Schumacher, the foundation's board chair.

"Thanks to the generosity of our neighbors and business community, we have been able to award more than \$400,000 in grants to support our neighborhood schools and nonprofits," she said.

"Add to that our growing endowment fund and the community-building efforts of our executive director, and we feel there's a lot to celebrate."

Commentary from 5

thing the poor man ever did.

I loved everything about Minnesota and, after stints as a musician in Arkansas, Nashville and Oklahoma, I did the inevitable on June 6, 1974: I loaded a 1965 Volkswagen camper with all of my possessions and three cats and moved to Minnesota.

And so it is that 40 years later,

I'm wondering if it might not be time for me to just go ahead and apply for Minnesota citizenship.

I don't quite have the accent down, but I think I meet all of the other requirements.

Adam Granger lives in St. Anthony Park with his wife and son and is a regular contributor to the Park Bugle.

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The Birdman of Lauderdale

by Clay Christensen

The bird lover's dilemma

Putting out seed to draw birds to your yard can attract accipiters

I had just finished filling the front-yard bird feeders and was stepping into the side door when a large bird glided in and settled on the fence between the houses, almost in front of me. I stood frozen with the storm door half open and took a close look at a Cooper's hawk.

I had a side view with its back toward me. Its head swiveled as it checked out the feeders I'd just filled. There was no action at any of the feeders. I was secretly glad that the hawk wasn't going to nab a victim from my very yard.

The hawk dropped backward off the fence, turned toward me in mid-air and sailed toward the back yard. It perched on the cable line above the area where I put out ground feed, especially loved by juncos and squirrels (rabbits take the night shift).

I edged my way along the side of the house, back toward the alley, watching the hawk all the while. As I reached the end of the deck, where the fence ends, the hawk left the wire, headed toward me again, but then ducked around the other side of the fence, out of sight.

I stepped off the deck, turned toward the garage to put away the birdseed and looked up briefly. There was the hawk sitting in the peach tree directly above the ground feeding area. (Yes, I do have a peach tree growing in my back yard. It was a volunteer grown from a peach pit in the compost bin.) The hawk had looped back without my seeing it. I was surprised that a bird so large could be so invisible.

Imagine being a potential target meal, thinking the threat was gone, and, wham, there it is, back again.

The Cooper's hawk is in a

family of birds called accipiters. The name apparently comes from an old Latin word that describes the way these hawks grab their prey. I don't know any old Latin (or any old Latins, for that matter), but I've seen a Cooper's hawk grab a victim and it's not pretty. The hawk usually takes its catch to a flat spot, and lays it on its back while maintaining its grip with both feet. The hawk then closes its talons and kills its victim by constriction.

Cooper's hawks tend to take larger prey such as mourning doves, pigeons, robins and jays. Some will even take small mammals, such as chipmunks or squirrels. Its smaller cousin, the sharp-shinned hawk, generally favors smaller birds like chickadees, goldfinches, sparrows and downy woodpeckers.

Somehow, it seems wrong to me for a bird to kill and eat another bird. I don't know why that is. Perhaps it's because I think of birds as graceful songsters enjoying the freedom of flight—and yet there is this gruesome reality.

The Cooper's hawk is 14 to 20 inches from beak to tail tip, which is about the size of a crow. Its head and back are gun-metal blue-gray. The juvenile has heavy dark brown vertical streaks on the chest and tummy. The adult has thin rusty horizontal bars down the front.

Females are generally larger than the males. The tail is rounded at the end with a broad white edge called a terminal band. These features tend to vary with age of the bird and the condition of its feathers.

The sharp-shinned hawk is 10 to 14 inches long, the size of a blue jay or flicker with the same coloration as a Cooper's but with more of a

square tail and a narrower terminal band.

Whenever I see one of these hawks, my adrenaline starts pumping and I stare in awe, finally trying to remember to look at it intently, observe those diagnostic marks (What were they again?), even mumbling notable features to myself, and then, after it's flown, adjourn to my book shelf for a guide that shows the differences.

Even then, I usually come away with only a "pretty sure" identification.

The Cooper's hawk I saw had its back or side toward me every time it perched, but the flexibility of its neck allowed it to watch me while surveying the yard for potential victims. This ability to crane its neck and look around is another feature of the Cooper's hawk. The sharpie has to dip a shoulder in order to look back at something.

This hawk knew that there were feeding areas in the front yard and back by the alley, and those are the spots it checked out. It had probably been here before. Our place was on its morning route.

And so it's the bird lover's dilemma: putting out seed to draw birds also brings in a potential meal for an accipiter.

There was no bird action at the feeders for nearly an hour, so at least on this particular morning, I was spared the guilty feeling I get when my bird-feeding zones become bird-killing zones.

Clay Christensen's book, The Birdman of Lauderdale, is available from local bookstores and bird stores as well as online from BirdmanBook.com.

Cheese festival will feature more than cheese at fairgrounds in May

The Minnesota Cheese Festival will return to the International Bazaar at the Minnesota State Fair grounds on Sunday, May 18. The event will be held in two sessions, one at 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and one at 2:30-6:30 p.m.

The festival will feature live music all day.

Joining the festival for the first time are cheesemakers from Wisconsin, Illinois and Iowa, including Roelli Cheese Haus, Burnett Dairy, Marcoot Jersey Creamery and Yellow River Dairy. Other Midwest cheesemakers in attendance include Alemar Cheese Co., Caves of Faribault, Comstock Creamery, Eichten's Hidden Acres, Ellsworth Creamery, Holland's Family Cheese, Redhead Creamery,

Sartori Cheese, Shepherd's Way Farms, Swiss Valley Farms and the Friendly Confines Cheese Shoppe.

Other artisan food producers will be onsite to highlight products to pair with cheese, including Ames Farm, Bare Honey, Brooklyn Slate, David Towley Woodworking Olive on Tap, Pam's Pepper Jam and Tantalizing Taste.

The festival will include the following seminars and demonstrations: Midwest Supplies will host hourly cheesemaking demonstrations; Amusée Wine will host wine and cheese pairing seminars (age 21+ only); a Perfect Pint will host beer and cheese pairing seminars (age 21+ only); the Cheese Guy will host guided cheese tasting

seminars; and Chef Jesse Fuls will demonstrate how to cook with cheese.

Music will include three popular local artists.

Davina and the Vagabonds will play one-hour sets at 1 p.m. and 2:50 p.m. The High 48s will play one-hour sets at 11:40 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Big George Jackson Blues Band will play at 10:20 a.m. and 4:10 p.m.

Tickets are available in advance for \$35 (plus processing fees) at mncheesefest.eventbrite.com.

Limited tickets will be available at the door for \$40, cash only.

For information on the 2014 Minnesota Cheese Festival, visit mncheesefest.com.

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Abu Dhabi from 3

generalizations rattled was a welcome and regular experience, Amelia said.

That can be a major reward to studying abroad, said Molly McCurdy, a guidance counselor at Como Park Senior High. She recently visited Amelia and Dean in Abu Dhabi and said she encourages all her students to get out of St. Paul and travel.

"They are exposed to a different culture, language, traditions, history and way of life," McCurdy said in an email. "These are gifts that a student cannot typically obtain from classroom work."

Adding to the free exchange of ideas and religiously tolerant ethos on campus, Amelia founded a Universalist Unitarian student group. She also organized popular open mic nights on campus.

A normal college experience

For all the romantic visions people have of studying abroad, both Amelia and Dean say their everyday life in Abu Dhabi is surprisingly normal.

"I go to class, I eat in the

dining hall, I play sports—I feel like to a certain degree I have a very normal college experience," Dean said. "It just so happens that I live in Abu Dhabi."

Amelia studied philosophy and Dean is majoring in physics with a minor in applied mathematics.

Students at NYU Abu Dhabi currently live on several floors rented out by the university in a skyscraper at the heart of the city. Most classrooms and campus facilities are in a separate building a couple of blocks away.

Next year, the campus will move to Saadiyat Island, which is envisioned to be a cultural epicenter for the oil-rich Persian Gulf state. In addition to the campus, the island will house reincarnations of the Louvre, Guggenheim and other internationally renowned cultural icons, as well as a lavish performing arts center.

Being located in the capital city provides a plethora of unique cultural and recreational opportunities. Both students say they enjoy the confluence of Western and Eastern influences that creates a vibrant scene of arts



Como Park Senior High School alum Amelia Kahn will be among the first graduating class at New York University Abu Dhabi in May. Photo by Jorge Zárate

and cultural offerings. They speak fondly of the variety of ethnic cuisines, socializing in cafes over shisha (tobacco smoked in a water pipe, or hookah) and frequenting the pristine white sandy beach near campus.

Like other American colleges, bars are also a regular part of social life in Abu Dhabi for those of age.

"They have a lot of good ladies' nights," Amelia said.

A Western woman, an Arab state and little controversy

Despite her mother's worst fears, Amelia said her experience as a Western woman in Abu Dhabi has been far less controversial than many Westerners might expect.

She might get awkward stares on the street, but that's likely more due to cultural differences in manners. She said it's not considered rude to stare at people like it is in the U.S.

"Part of it is there just aren't a lot of white people, or a lot of white women, walking out in the street," Amelia said.

Abu Dhabi is actually one of the more progressive states in the Arab world. For the most part, there is a high degree of tolerance that might challenge some Western generalizations, Amelia said. Women are generally highly educated and wear, believe and say what they want.

"If you wanted to walk around in short shorts and a tank top, you wouldn't be arrested. You wouldn't be reprimanded on the street. It would just be really weird because that's not usual here," Amelia said.

Bananas and diapers

Amelia and Dean both enjoy an uncommon opportunity for international travel at NYU Abu Dhabi.

"Abu Dhabi is literally in the middle of the world," Dean said. "I can go to all these different places really easily and sometimes

the school funds things like that."

Dean has traveled to Thailand and India and looks forward to continuing to explore other parts of the world during his time in school.

Having been out of the country only twice before arriving in Abu Dhabi—once to Canada and once to Puerto Rico—Amelia's passport is now filled with customs stamps.

She's been to Georgia, Budapest, Israel, Palestine, Jordan, India, Chile, Spain, Nepal, Italy and more. For every unique destination, she has a list of stories to share with friends and family at home.

On one trip to Armenia, Amelia and a friend arrived at their bunks on an old Soviet train, only to find a tower of diapers overflowing on one bed and a pile of bananas on the other. Two Armenian women were transporting the goods to sell. They weren't happy when they found Amelia and her friend moving their cache.

Following a heated exchange of what Amelia interpreted to be a mix of Armenian and Russian dialects, the train's conductor stepped in to diffuse the situation. He showed Amelia and her friend to their own private cabin.

"It was a beautiful train ride and a very cool end to a very cool trip," she said.

When mom comes to visit

Amelia's mother, Kathy Kahn, a biology teacher at Como, will make the 20-hour flight to Abu Dhabi to watch her daughter graduate at the end of May.

She admits to having initial reservations, as most mothers might, about Amelia's college choice. But she has since set aside her misconceptions and come to embrace her daughter's wanderlust, she said.

Not having been overseas since she was 21, Kathy said she never would have considered traveling in the Middle East

without Amelia.

"I'm really looking forward to being exposed to new cultures and new ideas and just what it looks like and what it feels like," Kathy says. "I'm kind of hoping I can just let it wash over me."

In addition to the usual tourist attractions, Amelia said she is excited to introduce her mom to the people and places that made up her life the last four years. She looks forward to bringing her to a shisha bar, and maybe even a ladies night at one of the city's clubs.

Summer in Minnesota

While Amelia looks forward to returning home after graduation for a time, she said her international wanderlust is far from satisfied.

"At some point I'll probably settle down in one place, but I could not tell you where," she said.

For the immediate future, though, Amelia is looking forward to returning home for the temperate summer months in her home state.

"I love the summer in Minnesota. I'm looking forward to being home, being with my mom, hanging with my dog for a while," she said. "Hopefully I can find a job somewhere, too."

She also plans to spend part of the summer applying to master's and doctorate programs in philosophy. She's considering Harvard, Stanford and other American Ivy league schools, as well as Oxford and Cambridge in England, and some top-tier international universities.

Beyond that, Amelia said she's open to wherever the world might call her.

"I couldn't tell you a long term goal. I'm definitely looking at living in a lot of different places over the course of my life," she said.

Kyle Mianulli is a freelance journalist in the Twin Cities and the communications coordinator at District 12.

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Iron Range roots inspire local musician's new recording

By Roger Bergerson

Paul Seeba has lived in the Como Park neighborhood for 15 years now, but when it came to putting together his first album, the singer/guitarist/songwriter turned to his Iron Range heritage for inspiration.

He describes the album, "Mitchell Yards," as "rootsy Americana" in the musical genre of Wilco and the Jayhawks, with storytelling often based on real people, relationships and events.

The title track involves an abandoned train-switching station outside Hibbing, Minn., where Seeba was raised. The station played a key role in the shipment of iron ore to aid the Allied efforts in World War II and later escaped demolition—narrowly—because of its historical significance.

It's probably only natural that Seeba's songwriting often takes such a turn, because his day job is teaching social studies and history at White Bear Lake High School.

"I've been writing songs for 30 years and did a lot of live performing when I was younger, but teaching and being a dad has taken a lot of energy," Seeba said. "It just seems like the time is right to come back to the music."

Seeba's old friend Rick Mattson, who owns Sparta Sound Recording Studio in Eveleth, produced and recorded the album and performed on it as well, along with drummer Greg Tibruzi.

Seeba is back performing live this spring, on the Iron Range and in Duluth and Fargo. In addition, he will have a CD release party at 9 p.m. Friday, May 16, at Manitou Station, 2171 Fourth St., White Bear Lake.



Songwriter Paul Seeba's day job is teaching social studies and history at White Bear Lake High School.

"Mitchell Yards" can be purchased from a number of online sites, including CD Baby: www.cdbaby.com. For more information, go to www.paulseeba.com.

Chelsea Heights fundraiser

Paul Seeba and the Mitchell Yards Band will perform at a fundraiser for Chelsea Heights Elementary School starting at 9 p.m. Saturday, May 17, at the Half Time Rec, 1013 Front Ave., St. Paul.

Rock Star Supply Co. will hold its own 'prom'

Rock Star Supply Co., the educational nonprofit at 2388 W. University Ave. that offers free homework help and writing workshops to students in the Twin Cities, is partnering with with BANGbang Salon and Blackbird Café in Minneapolis to throw a 21+ prom-themed fundraiser on Saturday, May 17.

The event will be held at the Blackbird Café, 3800 Nicollet Ave. S., Minneapolis, from 10 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Tickets are \$12 at the door or \$10 in advance when ordered from rockstarsupplyco.org.

Next door to the Blackbird, BANGbang Salon will offer pre-party hairdos at a suggested donation of \$25. Find out more at rockstarsupplyco.org.

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Music in the Park Series

A bird's-eye view of Cuba

Local writer's birding trip to the forbidden island country was an eye-opener

By Roger Bergerson

HAVANA, Cuba – “You must unplug America and plug in Cuba,” advised the guide who met us on arrival at the airport here. “Relax and be flexible” was the implication.

We'd been practicing already: The plane carrying us on the short hop over from Miami took off six hours late.

Ours was a contingent of mostly Minnesotans who, over the next 12 days, would survey birds in national parks and protected areas in the western half of Cuba. Our leaders were Carrol Henderson, who heads up the Non-game Wildlife Program for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, and his Costa Rican-born wife, Ethelle.

Ethelle has a special connection to Cuba because her grandfather, Leonardo Gonzalez, fought alongside José Martí during the war of independence against Spain in the 1890s.

While the U.S. embargo of Cuba remains in place, Americans have been able to visit the island nation legally for about two years. The U.S. Treasury Department allows licensed operators to conduct tours that provide an educational or cultural experience, rather than typical “fun in the sun” activities.

“Americans are intrigued by the Cuban mystique, and it's a great time

to see the country, before tourism really takes off,” Henderson said. “With the work that's going on to improve the cruise terminal in the harbor, it won't be too long until Havana is swamped by worldwide visitors coming on giant cruise ships.”

And the appeal of birding there? “While you can only see about half the species in Cuba as, for example, in Costa Rica, there are more endemics (native birds found nowhere else) here than in Costa Rica and the Galapagos Islands combined,” he noted.

Of the 26 Cuban endemics, we were able to see 23, including the Big Three: the Cuban tody, Cuban trogon and Bee hummingbird, the world's smallest bird. And as we learned about these birds and many others in the days ahead, including the threats they face, there was an added bonus. After a long and morale-sapping winter back home, it was fun to encounter American robins, catbirds, Baltimore orioles and several of “our” warblers headed our way.

Although Cuba has been off-limits to American birdwatchers until recently, many ornithologists and biologists have been working diligently to study and protect its wildlife, to the point that more than 20 percent of the country is protected land.



A hotel room view of Havana. Photo by Roger Bergerson

One such area we visited was the huge Zapata Swamp adjacent to the Bay of Pigs. It is the third-largest wetland in the hemisphere, after the Pantanal in Argentina and the Florida Everglades.

As is the case with the other protected areas, Zapata Swamp is not only an important site for Cuban birds, but it is also of critical importance to migrants.

Our lead birding guide for the

trip was taking vacation time from his regular job as a government biologist. Federal employees make a monthly wage of about \$25, which means the tips he can earn from groups like ours are important supplemental income.

The three greatest successes of the Revolution, so the old Cuban saying goes, are health, education and sports. The three greatest failures: breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Already, tourism has become so important that it now accounts for 40 percent of the Cuban economy and we encountered tour buses everywhere as we criss-crossed the country. Canadians were particularly in evidence at the beach resorts in the northern Cays.

The island nation that once supplied the world with sugar no longer produces enough for its own people. In fact, Cuba has to import much of what it consumes, making food very expensive and at times in short supply. There was little

evidence of modern agricultural practices and it was startling to see oxen being used to plow fields.

In fact, besides cigars, one of Cuba's most successful exports is people, the health care professionals it provides to Venezuela in exchange for gasoline.

Some entrepreneurship is allowed, and many Cubans seem to be pursuing it with vigor. For example, we dined one night in a restaurant in a private home. This was a very upscale establishment with menu offerings we had seen nowhere else. And there was no evidence that anyone actually lived on the premises.

Much of Havana resembles a crumbling ruin, although extensive renovation is occurring in the old section of the city, where walking tours are very popular. We went on such a tour and visited the old squares that dot the quarter, one of which is dominated by the magnificent 18th-century Havana

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A souvenir stand. Photo by Roger Bergerson



Classic cars are used as tourist taxis in Havana. Photo by Val Cunningham

Cathedral.

There were talented musicians playing everywhere we dined, all with CDs to sell. Conversely, blaring from the bars and cafes catering to the younger crowd was the throbbing beat of Reggaeton, a musical phenomenon that one of our guides blamed on Puerto Rico but which seems to have its roots in Panama.

The trip was a wonderful mix of infusions, and at one point we were watching a Cuban tody flit around just outside the caves that served as Che Guevara's headquarters during the 1962 Missile Crisis.

(The tour of the Bay of Pigs Museum, including exhibits of captured American weapons and some steamy rhetoric, made at least one Yankee imperialist feel a little self-conscious.)

It was a special treat to be invited to the home of our birding guide for coffee and to meet his wife and daughter. We also visited Orlando Garrido in his home in Havana, where the noted ornithologist signed our copies of his *Birds of Cuba*.

Transportation clearly is a huge problem for many Cubans, as evidenced by the hundreds of hitchhikers on the highways, many of them waving currency at passing motorists. And the variety of vehicles

used to get around was mind-boggling, from horse-drawn contraptions, to motorized bicycles and carts to cars that had been gutted in order to carry more passengers.

And then there are those 1950s American cars, thousands and thousands of them all across the country, in daily use for more than 50 years with no spare parts available from the original manufacturers. Ingenious mechanics have kept them on the road with Russian or Japanese engines and a host of other modifications.

In what seemed like no time at all, we were boarding our return flight to Miami—only three hours late this time—headed for home. Home, where things take place on schedule (relatively), there are no power outages (mostly) and various commodities that one tends to take for granted, like toilet paper, are in plentiful supply.

We're still shaking our heads about a country that shouldn't be able to function at all, but somehow does, thanks to its resilient and opportunistic people.

We may "unplug" Cuba, but we'll never forget.

Roger Bergerson is a regular contributor to the Park Bugle.

If you want to go

The Hendersons already have a long waiting list for their 2015 Cuba trip. However, if you'd like to take a tour with a birding emphasis, Caribbean Conservation Trust (cubirds.org) is highly recommended. For more of a cultural emphasis, try International Expeditions at ietravel.com/north-america-caribbean/cuba.



Scanning the treetops in the Zapata Swamp. Photo by Carrol Henderson



The Cuban tody, a bird with the verve of a black-capped chickadee. Photo by Beth Siverhus

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School News

The Bugle welcomes news about students and schools in the area. The deadline for the June issue is Wednesday, May 14. Send your news to editor@parkbugle.org.

Avalon School

700 Glendale St., 651-649-5495
www.avalonschool.org

Feminist Club honored

Avalon School's Feminist Club will be honored at the Synergy & Leadership Exchange Character Recognition Awards Ceremony May 8 at 2:30 p.m. at the Minnesota State Capitol. Avalon students and staff will be on hand to accept the award.

Synergy & Leadership Exchange, based in Mankato, Minn., has chosen to honor the club for its work in empowering students as leaders within the school and "change-makers in their communities."

Mali O'Neal, a student leader of the club, helped form the organization this year after hearing some offensive comments from another student. The club meets twice a week to discuss issues about feminism and how it relates to other issues and current events. Members have participated in rallies and workshops, attended lectures at local universities, and had many guest speakers. The club also hosted an after-school screening of *Miss Representation*, a documentary about the way women are portrayed in the media.

Magic Flute

Avalon students finished their collaboration with the Minnesota Opera Company and the Independent Filmmakers Project (IFP) by attending the Minnesota Opera production of "The Magic Flute" on April 11. The students' work—wacky film parodies of characters and scenes in the opera—was shown in the lobby of the Ordway Center.

10,000 Things Theater Company

The 10,000 Things Theater Company is coming to Avalon on Monday, April 28, to perform "Dirt Sticks" at 2 p.m. Tickets are free, and interested people should contact Kevin Ward at 651-649-5495, ext. 211, or kevin@avalonschool.org to reserve tickets.

Senior projects

Avalon's class of 2014 will present their senior projects (a culmination of 300 hours of work by each student during the course of this school year) at Avalon the weeks of May 12 and May 19. Contact Kevin Ward for more information: 651-649-5495, ext. 211, or kevin@avalonschool.org.

Seats to Stage

Humanities Class students in grades 6 to 8 will participate in the History Theatre's Seats to Stage program. Teaching artists will help students

develop pieces that will be performed by those students at the History Theatre, 30 10th St. E., St. Paul, on Wednesday, May 28.

Improv performances

This spring, Avalon students, working under the direction of Eric Webster, will learn improv skills and perform at the Huge Improv Theater, 3037 Lyndale Ave. S., Minneapolis, on Friday, May 30, from 6 to 7 p.m.

Brimhall Elementary School

1744 W. County Road B
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Great Brimhall Get-Together

The Great Brimhall Get-Together (formerly the International Festival) Friday, April 25, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. It will be a fitting celebration of a lively and productive 2013-14 year and a homecoming for Brimhall alumni. Thank you to Diane Kaphing for her tireless leadership; Tangled Roots for the musical entertainment; the dozens of parent, staff and student volunteers; and to the cake, raffle and silent auction donors.

'Cinderella, Cinderella'

Sixth-graders performed "Cinderella, Cinderella!" as two separate casts for school and community audiences the last week of April. The performances featured much laughter as well as community-building themes. Thank you to the directors, students, Roseville Foundation grant and parent carpools that made this new initiative possible. Many future Roseville Area Middle School students are excited about future theater projects.

Scholastic Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair in April was a great chance for students to exercise both personal finance skills and a great selection of literature. Thank you to media specialist Anna Zbacnik and the kind volunteers who help students count piggybank coins as well as scan credit cards.

PTA meets May 5

The Brimhall PTA business meeting of 2013-14 will be held Monday, May 5, at 6:30 p.m. in the school's music room. Members will vote on a 2014-15 budget, elect all four officer positions and plan ahead for the next school year, which will see many transitions for key volunteers. Thank you to Scott Roste, PTA president, for his leadership the past two years, during which fundraising, programming, and parent and staff teamwork have remained strong for the school of more than 700 K-6 students.

Volunteer breakfast

The annual Volunteer Recognition Breakfast will be held Thursday, May 29, in the school's multipurpose



Como singers awarded at McNally Smith festival

Two Como Park Senior High School students participated in the Sixth Annual Vocal Jazz Festival at McNally Smith College of Music in St. Paul and received half scholarships to the school's summer vocal workshop. Esther Vang and Emanuel Rivera were both awarded for their solos at the March festival. Vang sang "If I Loved You" and Rivera sang "Come Together." The students, along with others from Como Park and from schools in South Dakota, North Dakota and Wisconsin, worked with Grammy Award-winning jazz singers New York Voices. The students performed, recorded in a studio and got feedback from McNally Smith faculty members (many of whom are professional working musicians) and the New York artists.

room at 8 a.m. All 2013-14 volunteers are invited to attend and be honored for their hard work. "Bengal pride" means there are always plenty of volunteers to recognize.

Chelsea Heights Elementary

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

Spring carnival

Chelsea Heights Elementary will host its annual Spring Carnival on Friday, May 16, from 5 to 8 p.m. Pre-sale tickets are available at the school. The new ticket price this year is 50 cents per ticket. There will be games (with prizes!), food trucks, raffles, bouncy houses, a climbing wall and other activities. There also will be new free activities this year, including preschool stations, a craft table and an obstacle course. All proceeds will help support student activities such as Destination ImagiNation, field trips, the fifth-grade ski trip, playground maintenance and classroom supplies.

Fundraiser at Half Time Rec

Paul Seeba and the Mitchell Yards Band (see story on page 11) will perform at a fundraiser for Chelsea Heights Elementary School on Saturday, May 17, at 9 p.m. at the Half Time Rec, 1013 Front Ave.

Como Park Elementary

780 W. Wheelock Parkway,
651-293-8820, www.comoel.spps.org

Spring carnival

Como Park Elementary School will host its annual Spring Carnival on

Friday, May 30, from 5 to 7:30 p.m. The carnival is a fundraiser to revitalize the school's playground, support its literacy program and fund field trips.

There will be two new activities at the carnival this year: The Raptor Center and Como Zoo will be there to share their birds and animals with the guests. The Como Planetarium will offer free shows during the evening (get your free tickets early; seating is limited).

The carnival will have more than 15 games, three large bouncers, a snack walk, Scholastic Book Fair, a basket raffle, Bingo, a silent auction, games, a dunk tank, a crazy hair booth and face painting.

The St. Paul Mounted Police will visit with their horses and the St. Paul Canine Unit will conduct demonstrations. Food will be available for purchase and the popcorn is free.

The carnival is supported by many community and neighborhood organizations.

Como Park Senior High

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

Summer Yale Scholars

Keith Eicher, a sophomore at Como Park Senior High School, will attend the Summer Yale Scholars program at Yale University. It is a competitive program for promising young scholars to study world issues in a multidisciplinary fashion.

Perfect ACT

Ellen Purdy, a junior, was one of three students in St. Paul Public Schools to receive a perfect score on

her ACT. Congratulations, Ellen!

Film awards

Jake Vigliotti and Simon Insook took first place in the High School Short Form: Fiction category of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Upper Midwest High School Student Awards at the Mall of America on March 30. Jake and Simon were awarded for their video Online Relationship, produced through the St. Paul Neighborhood Network (SPNN).

Robotics

The Como Park Robotics Team had a record-breaking regional tournament at the University of Minnesota April 1-3.

The team's robot performed from the beginning, scoring points in autonomous mode (the first time for the team) and rocking the truss points (throwing the ball over the truss) during every qualification round match.

Vive la France!

Six Como students and three adults (two parents and their teacher Madame Patricia Teefy) went to Paris, Provence (southern France), and the Riviera (la Cote d'Azur) over spring break.

The group toured Paris, saw la Tour Eiffel, Notre Dame de Paris, les Champs Elysees and the Latin Quarter (student area). A highlight was seeing the students order and enjoy crepes from street stands.

From Paris, the group hopped onto the high-speed TGV train to Avignon. They toured Provence by bus and visited Arles (Van Gogh's

Customers' vote helps Brownies 'give back'

The girls in St. Anthony Park Brownie Troop 55909 spent March selling Girl Scout cookies and asking cookie-buyers which of three projects the customers thought was deserving of a third of the troop's earnings. The Sandwich Project—a Twin Cities organization that delivers sandwiches to homeless shelters and food shelves each week—won. The troop of 12 second-grade girls and their leaders—Dina Kountoupes, Dana Wagner and Jenifer Culver—learned about the issue of homelessness, then spent Sunday, April 6, in the St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church kitchen making 150 sandwiches for the organization. According to Kountoupes, the girls listed the following in response to how helping homeless people with a basic need makes them feel: “happy that I can help others,” “proud because I am doing something for the community,” “happy because I am helping people who don't have supplies to help themselves” and “happy because the homeless people will stay healthy with our help of food.” Pictured below from the top photo down are Kiki Ruddy and Alice Wagner-Hemstad; Naomi Kempcke, Josephine Schucker and Elise Dunne; Annika Culver and Kaisa Lindfors; Evie Batchelor, Teodora Kamenov and Riya Stebleton.



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Garden Center opens May 5.
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PARK PERKS

Park Perks raised **\$760** for the Central High School Band.

During the month of May we are raising money for the Autism Society of MN.

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MAY

Events

Venue information is listed at the end of the calendar. Send your events to calendar@parkbugle.org by May 14 to be included in the June issue.

1 THURSDAY

St. Anthony Park Library will be closed for staff development.

Holy Childhood Rummage Sale begins: hours are 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Thursday; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, May 2; and 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday (bag day), May 3, Holy Childhood Catholic Church.

2 FRIDAY

St. Anthony Park Elementary School, 2180 Knapp St., spring carnival, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

3 SATURDAY

Spring family craft hour, for grade-school children but all are welcome, St. Anthony Park Library, 1:30-2:30 p.m.

6 TUESDAY

Baby lapsit storytime, every Tuesday in May, St. Anthony Park Library, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Domestic & international adoption information session, CHLSS, 6-8:30 p.m.

"Trees in a Changing World," presented by arborist Andy Hodland, St. Anthony Park Garden Club, meeting is at 6:30 p.m., speaker is at 7:30 p.m., St. Matthew's Episcopal Church.

7 WEDNESDAY

English conversation circles, every Wednesday in May, St. Anthony Park Library, 4-5:30 p.m.

St. Anthony Park Book Club, "Tenth of December" by George Saunders, St. Anthony Park Library, 6:30-8 p.m.

8 THURSDAY

St. Anthony Park Elementary School's spring plant sale, May 8 and 9, school grounds, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Preschool Mandarin Chinese Storytime, St. Anthony Park Library, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Senior Cinema Series: "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels," St. Anthony Park Library, 1-3 p.m.

"Northwest Minnesota through the Seasons," presented by photographer and writer Bruce D. Flaig, a part of St. Paul Audubon Club's monthly program, Fairview Community Center, 7 p.m. Social time with refreshments begin at 6:45 p.m.

9 FRIDAY

Preschool storytime, every Friday in May, St. Anthony Park Library, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Prints and Pots, work by Emily Gray Koehler and Cheryl and Bob Husby, opens at Raymond Avenue Gallery, 761 Raymond Ave., 6-8 p.m. The show runs through June 21.

10 SATURDAY

The Falcon Heights-Lauderdale Lions Club & Cycles for Change bike drive, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Falcon Heights City Hall parking lot. Donate your old bikes to be refurbished or recycled.

Minnesota's Waiting Children: Learn about adopting children who live in foster care, CHLSS, 10 a.m.-noon

Irish Dance for Teens, St. Anthony Park Library, noon-1 p.m.

Lyngblomsten Women's Legacy Tea: Legacies of Our Nordic Grandmothers, Newman-Benson Chapel, Lyngblomsten, 2:30-4 p.m. Cost is \$25 and includes tea, food and program. RSVP by May 2 to 651-632-5324 or lwestern@lyngblomsten.org.

Calliope Women's Chorus presents "Stand Together: Celebrating Women, Solidarity and the Beauty of the Earth," concert and silent auction, Lab at the Lyric, doors open at 7 p.m., music begins at 7:30 p.m. Find out more at calliopewomenschorus.org.

Wayzata Symphony Orchestra performs at free concert at Roseville Lutheran Church, 1215 Roselawn Ave. W., 7:30 p.m. Donations accepted.

11 SUNDAY

Celebrate the anniversaries of Music in the Park and St. Anthony Park Foundation at Jazz in the Park with the New Standards and special guest Maria Jette, St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ, 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets at Schubert.org/newstandards or call 651-292-3268.

12 MONDAY

Falconeers Card Club, Falcon Heights City Hall, 1 p.m.

Rev. Barbara Everett will speak on "What we need to know and remember about our astrology self," Spirit United Interfaith Church, 7 p.m. Free refreshments and parking in lot east of the church; \$10 suggested donation.

13 TUESDAY

Adoptive parents group: For parents who adopted children through Minnesota's foster care system, CHLSS, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

14 WEDNESDAY

YMCA Camps Widjiwagan and du Nord Spring Garage Sale begins, Minnesota State Fairgrounds Merchandise Mart, 9 a.m.-7:30 p.m. Wednesday-Friday, Saturday bag sale, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., dunord-widji-sale.com.

15 THURSDAY

Maternity of Mary/St. Andrew Catholic School flea market begins: 4-6 p.m., Thursday; 4-7 p.m. Friday, May 16; 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, May 17; and 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

YMCA Camps Widjiwagan and du Nord Spring Garage Sale, Minnesota State Fairgrounds Merchandise Mart, 9 a.m.-7:30 p.m.

Webinar, "Conspicuous Families: Supporting Your Child's Racial/Ethnic Identity":

Adopted adults share personal insights and experiences of adoption and transracial families, noon-1 p.m. Register online at chsfs.org/webinars.

16 FRIDAY

YMCA Camps Widjiwagan and du Nord Spring Garage Sale, Minnesota State Fairgrounds Merchandise Mart, 9 a.m.-7:30 p.m., Chelsea Heights Elementary School, 1557 Huron St., spring carnival, 5-8 p.m.

Irish duo Martin Hayes and Dennis Cahill in concert, Celtic Junction, 8 p.m. Advanced tickets available at thecelticjunction.com or call 612-874-8892.

17 SATURDAY

YMCA Camps Widjiwagan and du Nord Spring Garage Sale, Minnesota State Fairgrounds Merchandise Mart, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Como Park Neighborhood Garage Sale, 70-plus sales. Go to district10comopark.org for a map and guide.

Northern Horticulture Club Spring Plant Sale, Corpus Christi Church, 9 a.m.-noon.

Ramsey County Master Gardener's Plant Sale, The Barn, 2020 White Bear Ave., St. Paul, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Go to extension.umn.edu/garden/master-gardener for more information.

Domestic and international adoption information session, CHLSS, 9-11:30 a.m.

Chelsea Heights fundraiser with Paul Seeba and Mitchell Yards Band, Half Time Rec, 1013 Front Ave., 9 p.m.

18 SUNDAY

Sunday Afternoon Book Club, "Escape from Camp 14" by Blaine Harden, Micawber's Books, 2:30 p.m.

21 WEDNESDAY

Eating, Reading and Living Well series: James Norton and Becca Dilley discuss their book "Lake Superior Flavors," St. Anthony Park Library, 7-8:30 p.m.

22 THURSDAY

Preschool Mandarin Chinese storytime, St. Anthony Park Library, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

23 FRIDAY

Co-ed drum circle, Women's Drum Center, 6:30 p.m. All levels of experience welcome; \$10 at the door; drums provided.

24 SATURDAY

St. Anthony Park library will be closed through Monday, May 26, in observance of Memorial Day weekend.

Gibbs Museum opens for the season, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

27 TUESDAY

Social Media Workshop, 10 a.m.-noon, St. Anthony Park Library; call 651-642-0411 to register.

Adoptee group: International Search and Reunion, for internationally adopted adults engaged in birth family searches, CHLSS, 7-8:30 p.m.

Red Cross Blood Drive, St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, 2-7 p.m. Schedule online at redcrossblood.org or call Joy at 612-644-8833.

29 THURSDAY

Social Media Workshop, 10 a.m.-noon, St. Anthony Park Library, call 651-642-0411 to register.

30 FRIDAY

Como Park Elementary School spring carnival, 780 W. Wheelock Parkway, 5-7:30 p.m.

ST. ANTHONY PARK AREA SENIOR EXERCISE CLASSES

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

Celtic Junction, 836 Prior Ave. N., 651-330-4685

CHLSS, Children's Home & Lutheran Social Services, 1605 Eustis St., 651-646-7771

Corpus Christi Church, 2131 Fairview Ave. N.

Fairview Community Center, 1910 W. County Road B, Roseville

Falcon Heights City Hall, 2077 Larpenteur Ave., 651-644-5050

Holy Childhood Church, 1435 Midway Parkway, 651-644-7495

Lab at the Lyric, 765 N. Hampden Ave.

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

Lyngblomsten, 1415 Almond Ave., 651-646-2941

Maternity of Mary-St. Andrew's School, 592 W. Arlington Ave., 651-489-1459, mmsaschool.org

Micawber's Books, 2238 Carter Ave., 651-645-5506

Spirit United Interfaith Church, 3204 S.E. Como Ave., 651-235-6645; www.theosophical.org

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

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

St. Matthews Episcopal Church, 2136 Carter Ave., 651-645-3058

Women's Drum Center, 2242 W. University Ave., www.womensdrumcenter.org.

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Neighbors

Arona Child Development Center earns national accreditation

Arona Child Development Center, located on the Hubert H. Humphrey Job Corps campus in the Como Park neighborhood, has earned accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).

The center provides child care and education to children of students and staff on the Job Corps campus, as well as to children of families in the community.

Located in a former dormitory on campus, the building was renovated in 2006 to provide single-parent dorm rooms on the second and third levels and the child care center in the basement level. The center's director, Angela Kapp, opened Arona in October 2012 after the Head Start program closed earlier that year.

The center conducted an extensive self-study process, measuring the program and its services against 10 early childhood program standards and more than 400 related criteria, as well as an onsite assessment, to earn the accreditation.

For more information about Arona Child Development, visit aronacdc.com.

Anxiety support group meets at Goodwill twice a month

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) of Minnesota sponsors free support groups for persons with anxiety disorders.

The groups help individuals develop better coping skills and find strength through sharing their experiences.

An Open Door Anxiety and Panic support group meets in St. Paul from 6:30 to 8 p.m., on the second and fourth Thursday of the month, at Goodwill-Easter Seals, 553 Fairview Ave. N., in Room 123. For information call NAMI at 651-645-2948.

Ancient Mysteries film series continues at Spirit United Church

The Theosophical Society will show the movie Vision and the Medicine Wheel on Monday, April 28, at 7 p.m. at Spirit United Church, 3204 Como Ave. S.E., Minneapolis. The film is part of the Ancient Mysteries, Ancient Wisdom film series.

The film introduces the controversial visionary Sun Bear in his home at Vision Mountain during his final months. In this moving

interview, he shares his experiences of traveling the world and awakening a new generation to ancient traditions.

A \$5 donation is requested. The event includes free refreshments and parking in the lot east of the church, which is three blocks west of Highway 280.

For more information, call 651-235-6645 or go to www.theosophical.org.

Audubon Society presents photos of northwest Minnesota

Photographer Bruce D. Flaig will present "Northwest Minnesota through the Seasons" at the St. Paul Audubon Society meeting on Thursday, May 8, at 7 p.m. at Fairview Community Center, 1910 W. County Road B, Roseville.

After working a variety of technical jobs, Flaig became a professional photographer 20 years ago. He lived in seven other states and two foreign countries before returning to Minnesota, where he has lived in the Fertile area for more than 10 years.

"Northwest Minnesota through the Seasons" features images of birds, mammals, insects, flowers and landscapes from that area of the state. Flaig will talk about why he photographs nature, the creative process, the hazards of photographing nature and where to find subjects to photograph.

The public is invited to this free program. A social time with refreshments begins at 6:45 p.m. For more information, call Linda Goodspeed at 651-647-1452.

Calliope Women's Chorus will perform at the Lab at the Lyric

Calliope Women's Chorus will present "Stand Together: Celebrating Women, Solidarity and the Beauty of the Earth," a concert and silent auction, on Saturday, May 10, at the Lab at the Lyric, 765 N. Hampden Ave., St. Paul. Doors will open at 7 p.m.; music will begin at 7:30 p.m.

The silent auction will open at 7 p.m. and feature items such as a year of monthly desserts, restaurant gift certificates, luxury items and handmade items.

Find out more at calliopewomenschorus.org.

Irish duo Martin Hayes and Dennis Cahill in concert

Irish fiddler Martin Hayes and guitarist Dennis Cahill will appear in concert at Celtic Junction, 836 Prior Ave. N., on Friday, May 16, at 8 p.m.

Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. Purchase tickets at thecelticjunction.com or call 612-874-8892.

Support Camps Widjiwagan and du Nord at annual garage sale

Shop and support YMCA Camps Widjiwagan and du Nord at the camps' annual garage sale at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds Merchandise Mart on Wednesday, May 14, to Saturday, May 17. Admission is free. The sale is open 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday to Friday. A bag sale will be held on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

More than 250 families contribute camping equipment, clothing, household items, toys, books, antiques, furniture, sports equipment and more. All proceeds go to the YMCA camps. For more information, call 651-645-6605.

St. Paul support group for families

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) of Minnesota sponsors free support groups for families who have a relative with a mental illness. Led by trained facilitators who also have family members with mental illness, the support groups help families develop better coping skills and find strength through sharing their experiences. A family support group meets in St. Paul at Goodwill Easter Seals, 553 Fairview Ave. N., Room 123, on the fourth Tuesday of the month, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. For information, call Jennifer at 507-254-5524 or 651-645-2948.

Fourth in the Park needs you

The folks who organize the Fourth in the Park, the annual July 4 celebration in St. Anthony Park, need help stuffing envelopes on Tuesday, June 3, from 6:30-7:30 p.m., at Langford Park Recreation Center. Anyone is welcome. Just show up.

Garden club plant sale is in June

The St. Anthony Park Garden Club is holding its 16th annual plant sale on Saturday, June 7, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Look for tents and tables at Park Service, 2277 Como Ave., during the St. Anthony Park Arts Festival. Garden club members will be on hand to answer questions about hardy perennials and plant culture.

Proceeds from the sale support the planting of the St. Anthony Park Library gardens and window boxes, the Minnesota State Horticultural Society's garden at the Minnesota State Fair and a scholarship given to a University of Minnesota student majoring in horticulture.

Questions? Contact Sandee Kelsey at kelse005@umn.edu.

Native Plant Expo is June 7

Having a hard time finding native plant sellers in the metro area? The Landscape Revival on Saturday, June 7, may be a handy resource.

Purchase native plants from 12 area growers and learn about

pollinators and how natives help protect water resources. The event runs 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Rainbow Foods Community Pavilion, Larpenteur and Fernwood avenues, Roseville.

Holy Childhood rummage sale runs May 1 to May 3

The Church of the Holy Childhood, 1435 Midway Parkway, will hold a rummage sale on Thursday, May 1, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Friday, May

2, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Saturday, May 3, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday is bag day.

Red Cross blood drive at St. Anthony Park Lutheran

A community Red Cross blood drive will be held on Tuesday, May 27, from 2 to 7 p.m. at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, 2323 Como Ave. You can schedule a time online at redcrossblood.org or call Joy at 651-644-8833.

Stuff your wallet.

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Como Booster Club hosts spaghetti dinner

The Como Park Senior High School Booster Club will host a fundraising spaghetti dinner on Friday, April 25, from 5 to 8 p.m. at Como Park Lutheran Church, 1376 W. Hoyt Ave., St. Paul.

Cost is \$8 and includes spaghetti with or without meatballs, salad, bread, dessert and a beverage.

Tickets will be available at the door.

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School News from 14



Murray Middle School state science fair participants and teachers Nick Altringer (far right) and Tim Chase (far left). (Daniel Ellis is missing in the photo.)

cafe and town), Nimes (and saw a Roman amphitheater) and Avignon (the medieval walled city with the Pope's palace).

They traveled farther south to take a boat ride on the Mediterranean and visit the small port town of Cassis, then went on to Cannes and Nice.

The students navigated everything from how to read a map, take the metro, purchase an item and order in a restaurant. They were curious and noticed lots of interesting cultural differences.

Fun Run

The Cougar Fun Run/Walk will take place on Thursday, May 22, from 12:45 to 2 p.m. rain or shine. All students, staff, parents, guardians and committee members are welcome to join the fun.

The event will start at the front doors of Como Park Senior High School, where students will turn in their signed permission slips and receive a Cougar Fun Run/Walk Passport. Runners and walkers will proceed to Lake Como, and as they go around the lake they will stop at different activity stations and get their passports stamped after they complete the activity.

When students have gone around the lake and completed the activities, they will head to the school's track field for a drawing for wellness incentives, prizes, healthy snacks and water.

Murray Middle School

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

High scores at state science fair

Murray Middle School students had great showings at the Minnesota State Science Fair in Bloomington on March 30 and April 1. Ten students presented either a paper or project in the competition.

Murray has a long tradition of doing science fairs at school and taking the students to the regional and state level. No other St. Paul school was so strongly represented this year.

Three Murray students were given the Seagate Emerging Scientist Awards (280 first-time participants were evaluated and ranked; the top 10 percent received awards): Gayathri Dileepan, Daniel Ellis and Forrest Ahrens.

Two Murray students received Middle School Paper Awards: Valerie Bares and Isak Stillwell-Jardin.

Grand Awards went to Lily Xiong (Bronze), Gayathri Dileepan (Silver), and Daniel Ellis and Forrest Ahrens (both Gold).

Daniel Ellis, Forrest Ahrens and Gayathri Dileepan received the Broadcom Master's Award.

St. Anthony Park Elementary

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

Plant sale

St. Anthony Park Elementary School's spring plant sale, a fundraiser for St. Anthony Park School Association, will be held on Thursday, May 8, and Friday, May 9, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., on the school grounds.

The sale will include hanging baskets, flowers, vegetables and herbs. This year, the sale will include plants sourced from Glacial Ridge Growers, a company committed to organic and sustainable practices in its fields and greenhouses.

Carnival time

The annual carnival will be held Friday, May 2, from 5:30 to 8 p.m., and the public is welcome.

Visitation School

245 Visitation Drive, Mendota Heights, 651-683-1700

www.visitation.net

Visitation School celebrates grand opening of new commons area

On March 17, members of the Visitation School community celebrated the grand opening of the Heart of the School, a new multilevel commons area that connects the campus' spaces of learning, reflection and relaxation, and serves as the new entrance to the school.

The Heart of the School was designed to enhance the whole school campus by making connections—physical, mental, social and spiritual—easier to achieve. Multiple access points throughout the Heart streamline traffic flow inside campus buildings and reduce congestion. The school also made improvements to heating, cooling, water and security systems that benefit the entire school.



Learn about Minnesota native plants and shop for them from a variety of local growers!

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Rainbow Foods Community Pavilion
1201 Larpenteur Ave. W. in Roseville
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L I V E S L I V E D

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

Henry Berry

Henry W. Berry, 101, of Roseville, died March 26. He graduated from the University of Nebraska in 1941 and later received a master's degree in electrical engineering from the University of Pennsylvania. He was a longtime employee of Honeywell in Minneapolis and an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed hunting, fishing and canoeing trips in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Helen. He is survived by son, John; daughter, Margaret (Michael) Sabatke; and two grandchildren.

A memorial service was held April 13 at Falcon Heights United Church of Christ.

Kenneth Curran

Kenneth L. Curran, 73, died March 24, after a long struggle with kidney cancer. Ken, a graduate of the College of St. Thomas, married Maureen Baumgartner in Albany, Minn., on June 1, 1968.

Ken was a longtime resident of St. Paul and loved spending time on Madeline Island on Lake Superior.

He had a wonderful voice and sang tenor in the Church of St. Cecilia choir.

Professionally he was vice president of CU Companies and managed the underwriting and quality control for residential mortgages.

He was preceded in death by his brother, Donald. He is survived by his wife, Maureen; daughters, Megan Nieto (Johnny) and Shannon Kinning (Tom); and two granddaughters.

Special thanks to the staff at Sholom Home for providing loving care at the end of his life. Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated March 29 at Church of St. Cecilia in St. Anthony Park.

Jeanne Ficocello

Jeanne M. (Larson) Ficocello, 66, longtime Como Park resident, died March 16. Born to Knight J. and Marian Larson on March 19, 1947, Jeanne brightened the life of anyone who had the honor and pleasure to know her. A graduate of Washington High School in St. Paul, Jeanne went to work for a local Teamsters union, for Gould Battery and later for Viking Sign Co.

As hard as she worked, she also loved to be near friends, whether at Gabe's by the Park or on the slot machines at Treasure Island Resort & Casino.

Jeanne will long be remembered by family and friends as a beautiful, loving and sweet soul. Jeanne and her husband, "Fic," were constantly giving to their family and friends, many remembering them by saying, "They'd take the shirt off their own back to help you out."

They loved each other and their daughter, Marilou, deeply and have left a huge hole in the hearts of many.

Jeanne was preceded in death by her husband, Jerry; brother, Bob Larson; and nephew, Rob Larson.

She is survived by her daughter, Marilou Ficocello-Tabor (Zach); brother, David Larson (Joan); and sister, Janice Larson (Roger).

A memorial visitation was held March 23 at Mueller-Bies Funeral Home, Roseville.

Thomas Greene

Thomas H. Greene, 64, of Como Park, died March 29, with his family by his side after a three-year battle with cancer. He was an active member of Victory Celebration Church, a well-known handyman, a bus driver, a coach and an avid volunteer.

He is survived by children, Jennifer (Joe), Jodi (Dave), Heather (Eric), Andrew (Jamie), and Tommy; eight grandchildren; mother, Donna Hofmeister; and siblings, Janet (Doug) Fairbanks and Ron (Deb Denison).

A memorial service was held April 3 at Mueller-Beiss Funeral Home, Roseville.

Robert Hammer

Robert H. Hammer, 89, of Como Park, died Feb. 10, in Destin, Fla. He is survived by Lu, his wife of 66 years; sons, Bob (LeAnne) and Jerry (Debby); daughter, Mary Beth Riebe (Bruce); six grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and brother, Gene.

He was a proud member and past president of construction workers Local 132.

Mass of Christian burial was celebrated March 29 at Church of the Holy Childhood, Como Park.



Charlotte Hansen

Charlotte Harriet Hansen, 99, died March 31.

Charlotte was a resident of St. Anthony Park for more than 70 years and was an activist member of St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church.

She was the devoted wife of Henry Hansen for 64 years and creatively raised three boys.

She enjoyed spending summers at Itasca State Park and Leech Lake, attending high school and Gopher hockey games and other University of Minnesota activities, shopping for bargains, socializing with friends, playing 500 and talking on the phone.

Charlotte was born to Harry and Selma Lindquist on Feb. 27, 1915, in Minneapolis, the second of five children.

She grew up in the Camden neighborhood of Minneapolis, grew in faith at Gethsemane Lutheran Church, graduated from North High School and received her teaching degree from St. Cloud Teacher's College in 1936. She married Henry Hansen of St. Cloud in 1941.

Henry preceded Charlotte in death in 2005. She was also preceded by her son Trygg Hansen; brothers, Rodger and Earle Lindquist; and sister, Ruth Lakey.

Charlotte is survived by her older sister, Alice Lundblad; two sons, Mark (Brenda) and David (Karen Lilley), both of St. Anthony Park; five grandchildren, Trygve (Jeanne), Per, Kip, Britta and Kell Hansen; and two great-grandchildren, Chloe and Dalila.

A memorial service was held April 12 at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church. After the service, the famous Lindquist Christmas sausage sold at Christmastime by Speedy Market was enjoyed by attendees.

Donald Hanson

Donald L. (Zeen) Hanson, 59, of New Brighton, died unexpectedly April 7. He was preceded in death by his parents, Arthur and Dorothy. He is survived by his wife of 27 years, Barb; children, Kristine and Benjamin Hanson; sister, Susan (Robert) Past; brother, Steven Hanson; and favorite canine companion, "Jake."

Don worked as a remodeling contractor for many years until he was forced to stop due to his illnesses.

His funeral service was held April 11 at the Church of St. Cecilia, St. Anthony Park.

Robert Lamb

Robert E. Lamb, 67, of Falcon Heights, died March 26. He was preceded in death by his parents, Catherine and Owen; mother-in-law, Ione; and brother, Peter. He is survived by his wife, Sherrie; children, Jacob (Mihaela), Peter (Amy) and Ben (Lindsey); seven grandchildren; sisters, Kathleen Lamb, Elizabeth (Jeff) Kramer, Theresa Smith, and Audrey (Al) Heitkamp; brothers, Michael (Corryne), Patrick (Diana), and Brian (Mary); father-in-law, Jerome Imsdahl; sisters-in-law, Virginia (Terry) Keegan and Michelle (David) McNally; and brothers-in-law, John (Rita) Imsdahl and Mark (Gloria) Imsdahl.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated April 2 at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church in Roseville, with interment at Fort Snelling National Cemetery.

Mary Mayne

Mary J. Mayne, 64, a lifetime resident of St. Anthony Park, died in

March. She was preceded in death by her parents, Howard and Mertyce, and her Aunt Mudge.

She is survived by a brother, Marc (Deborah); nephew, Justin (Amanda); niece, Cassandra Jensen (David); Uncle Pete; and her feline companion, Princess. A memorial gathering was held April 5 at Sandberg Funeral Home in North St. Paul.

Charles Purcell

Charles J. Purcell, 87, of Como Park, died April 6. He was retired from Control Data.

Charles was preceded in death by his first wife, Thomasine; brother, Pat; and sister, Mary Lou Dillon.

He is survived by his wife, Katie; sons, Bill (Sue) and John (Jeanette); daughters, Peggy Kvam (Bruce), Jane Purcell (David Martin), Anne Engdahl (Steve) and Judy Purcell; the Finnegan stepsons, Pat (Darla), John (Jeri), Tim (Jill), Dan (Pauline) and Mike; stepdaughters, Colleen Kroona (Bob) and Mary Madigan (Bob); 25 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated April 11 at Church of the Holy Childhood in Como Park, with interment at Roselawn Cemetery.

Gerald Roeller

Gerald Raymond (Jerry) Roeller, 72, of Birchwood, Minn., died Jan. 18, of pancreatic cancer.

Jerry was a valuable member of Hope Multipurpose Inc., a St. Paul nonprofit that operates the Blue House, an orphanage for girls in Uganda. Jerry served as the organization's business manager for many years.

He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Carol; daughters, Stephanie (Bob) Rucinski and Sue; son, John (Lori); four grandchildren; three brothers; and three sisters.

He was a graduate of Cretin High School, the University College

of St. Thomas and the University of Minnesota. He was retired from Honeywell.

A memorial service was held April 12 at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, St. Anthony Park.

Kin Hing Paul Tsang

Kin Hing Paul Tsang, 63, of Plymouth, died March 18. He is survived by his wife, Irene; children, Melissa Choi (Junarm) and Theodore; and two grandchildren.

His funeral service was held March 29 at Twin City Chinese Christian Church in Lauderdale, with interment at Hillside Cemetery.

Gail Weig

Gail F. Weig, 73, formerly of St. Anthony Park, died Feb. 18. Gail enjoyed her career as an interior designer. She was preceded in death by her husband, Wayne. She is survived by her children, Scott, Kim (Chris) Anderson, Adam (Chrysa Parkinson) and Paul (Audrey Spiess) Weig; three grandchildren; and brother, Doug (Judy) Tews.

A memorial service was held Feb. 22 at Lakewood Cemetery Chapel.

Serge Yermakoff

Serge W. Yermakoff, 98, of St. Anthony Park, died April 3. He was born on Dec. 2, 1915, in Beacon Falls, Conn. In 1950, he married Mildred Johnsen in New Jersey, where they lived together for 50 years. He lived the last 14 years of his life in St. Anthony Park.

Serge spent his early career building aircraft during World War II and later was a technical specialist for NCR.

He was preceded in death by his wife; and brother, Edward. He is survived by his children, Nanci (John Frost) and Jeannee (Dan Talsma).

A private celebration of his life was held April 19.

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St. Paul Art Crawl will stretch from University Avenue to South Como

South Como will join the St. Paul Art Crawl Friday, April 25, through Sunday, April 27, when Front Avenue Pottery, 895 Front Ave., hosts its first Art Crawl invitational exhibit, sale and free hands-on event.

Participants will be able to try their hands at a potter's wheel, make a clay birdhouse or a set of tapas plates (on Saturday, April 26, noon-8 p.m.) or work with a real milliner

(on Sunday at noon).

Nine Como (or friends of Como) artists will display clay, silver and stone jewelry, fiber and photography.

Hours are Friday, 5-10 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; and Sunday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Other area venues for the spring crawl include Carleton Place Lofts, 2285 W. University Ave.; the Bindery

Building, 708 Vandalia St.; Hancock Recreation Center, 1610 Hubbard Ave.; and Midway Pottery and Studios, 1708 W. University Ave.

Art Crawl hours at these venues are Friday, 6-10 p.m.; Saturday, noon-8 p.m.; and Sunday, noon-5 p.m. To find out more, go to www.stpaulartcrawl.org.

Local women will perform with Twin Cities Women's Choir in May

Como residents Meg Whiston and Stephanie Pituc will perform with the Twin Cities Women's Choir (TCWC) at the choir's annual Divas and Desserts Gala on Friday, May 9, and Saturday, May 10, at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church, 3450 Irving Ave. S., Minneapolis.

This year's gala theme is "Minnesota! Nice!" featuring musical stories about growing up and living in Minnesota.

In keeping with TCWC's mission of supporting new choral

music by and for women, the choir will premiere two new works written specifically for this concert: the debut of Bdote ("where two waters come together"), a piece by Minnesota composer Janika Vandervelde and supported by donations to a project funded through GiveMN, and Funkytown Remix, a piece sponsored by the Carol Rue Commission Fund and composed by TCWC's assistant director, Randi Grundahl Rexroth.

The event will include music,

desserts and a live and silent auction. The silent auction will begin at 6:30 p.m. Doors open at 7 p.m. for seating for the 7:30 p.m. performance and live auction.

Pre-sale admission for adults is \$25 and \$22 for seniors and students. Tickets will be sold at the door for \$30. Order tickets at www.TwinCitiesWomensChoir.org or call 612-333-8292.

St. Paul Youth Lacrosse Association registration open

Registration is open for the St. Paul Youth Lacrosse Association (SPYLA), which offers teams for boys and girls. Practices start in late April and games are in June and July. No previous lacrosse experience is required.

There are two levels of girls teams, based on the grade the

participant is in school: grades 3 and 4 (includes girls completing grade 2) and grades 5 and 6.

Boys teams are based on age as of Sept. 1 of the previous year. There are four team categories: U9, U11, U13 and U15. The St. Paul Lacrosse Club plays in a club league at the

high school level and is working toward gaining MSHSL status.

All registration is done on the SPYLA web site and you can find more information there: spylacrosse.org.uslaxteams.com.



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Undercroft Gallery: Abstract Landscapes by Amy Tillotson, May – June 27

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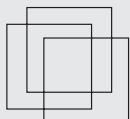
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**Business News**

The People's Gallery features work of local artists on University

By Natalie Zett

The People's Gallery is ready for action.

Situated on University Avenue between Highway 280 and Raymond Avenue, the gallery features the work of local artists. Paintings, photographs, digital prints, poetry and photo-collages fill the space and flood the senses, yet the gallery is intimate and feels homey.

The welcoming vibe at 2496 W. University Ave. is an outgrowth of the energy shared among the members of Crooked River Creations, the collective that operates the gallery: photographer Bob Alberti, photographer and musician Ayanna Muata, writer and poet Theresa Jarosz Alberti and multimedia artist Gennie Alberti.

Theresa and Bob are married, Gennie is their daughter, and Ayanna quips that she's a "long-lost cousin." Spend five minutes with this group, and their familial connection is

palpable.

A few years ago, when Bob and Ayanna first met, they began kicking around the idea of an art collective.

"We initially talked about our desires to be more creative and decided that it was time to not just talk about it, but be more proactive," Ayanna said.

Originally from Chicago, Ayanna works as a library manager at William Mitchell College of Law.

"My kids were in college and high school," she said, "and I was thinking, 'What else do I need to do?' I'd worked for nonprofits and in schools but always felt that I needed to push something out creative."

Bob, who spent his youth in Queens, N.Y., and outstate Minnesota, has worked for more than 30 years in information technology. He needed more artistic outlets in his life, he said.

"I was getting restless and wanted to focus more on my

photography," he said. "I'm also part of a comedy group called Vilification Tennis, so every month I perform at Bryant-Lake Bowl."

Theresa, who grew up in Brooklyn Park and Brooklyn Center, has published her first book of poetry, *(After) Confession*, which is for sale at the People's Gallery. The book is about family, growing up Catholic and life, she said.

Once they decided to form their collective, the first goal was to find a space.

"It had to be close enough to our respective homes [they live just across the river in Minneapolis] so we could get to it, and it needed growth potential," said Ayanna. Initially, they began working and having shows in a space they called B4 the Door Gallery in the back of the building, but the space is hidden from the street.

People's Gallery to 24



The People's Gallery collective, from left: Gennie Alberti, Ayanna Murata, Theresa Jarosz Alberti and Bob Alberti. Photo by Lori Hamilton

New manager at Muffuletta

Bryan White stepped into the role as general manager at Muffuletta in March. White, who had been working as assistant manager at Salut in Edina, replaces Chris Boyd. Muffuletta and Salut are both part of the Parasole restaurant company.

White says the 37-year-old restaurant will stay the course of emphasizing seasonal farm-to-table dishes. His aim is to promote the restaurant's amenities, including its private dining room in the back of the building. "It's a great venue for graduations and wedding or baby showers," he said.

He's also brainstorming with other Como-Carter business people

on ideas that would help promote the area.

The businesses along Como Avenue don't have the advantage of high traffic moving through the area, White says.

"It's a destination area," he says, and he's working with Dan Marshall at Peapods and Jon Schumacher with the St. Anthony Park Community Foundation to form a group that he hopes will collaborate to bring events and promotions to drive more customers into the neighborhood. — Kristal Leebrick



Bryan White

Classifieds

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A 3 1/2" wide by 1 1/2" high ad with a photo is just \$40.

The deadline is Wednesday, May 14.

Contact editor@parkbugle.org or call **651-646-5369**

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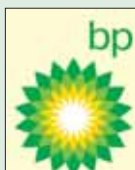
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Business News (continued)

People's Gallery from 22

"As we came in and out of the building, we noticed the empty store front adjacent to B4," Theresa said. They moved into that space, and now the People's Gallery has 1,200 square feet with an entrance on University Avenue.

The gallery recently closed a show called Color the Winter, an idea that Gennie conceived.

"We issued a call to artists, which was hugely successful," Ayanna said. In time, the group wants to have a six-week rotation of artists and is encouraging artists to contact them about future shows.

"The more people we can engage and bring into our house, the more we can have an ongoing dialogue about what impacts us as artists," Ayanna said. "We want to know other artists, and the community at large, because we need the community to not just survive,

but to thrive."

Gennie, who recently graduated from the University of Minnesota's art program, says the gallery is important to her as an emerging artist.

"I'm just coming into the arts community, and this is a great opportunity to meet people and keep in contact," she said. "Also, it's exciting to tell my friends—and fellow artists—that, if they need a space to do a poetry reading, for example, they should check us out. We have a gallery!"

When the Green Line opens in June on University Avenue, the collective is expecting an infusion of energy to the area. And they are brainstorming an upcoming show with a working title of "Love Train" To mark the launch of the new light rail.

"We'll see even more foot traffic and are looking forward to growing," Bob said.

"We want the gallery to be a place where people come to be part of the community—a neighborhood hub. Besides art, we have hosted poetry readings, musical shows and dance events."

Ayanna said people should come to view the art but also to engage and participate in it. "No elite art vibe going on here, and that's why we call it the People's Gallery," she said. "Everyone who comes in the door is part of the People's Gallery."

The People's Gallery is open by appointment (call 612-961-0507 or email crc@peoplesgallery.org) or check out their calendar at peoplesgallery.org. They also maintain a Facebook page at www.facebook.com/peoplesgallerybyPMI.

You can see Ayanna's work at waningmoondigitalimages.zenfolio.com and Theresa's work at penandmoon.com.

Business Briefs

Wellness for you and your computer

A storefront that will combine computer wellness (repair services) and holistic health services for humans will open on Como Avenue in May.

Psinerger (pronounced sin-er-gee) TechWarrior St. Paul (the computer-repair company) and Psinerger Natural Health and Holistic Wellness (for humans) will open on May 1 at 1553 Como Ave., across the street from Nelson Cheese and Deli and Café 99 and next to Bliss Yoga and Beloved Tattoo.

Business partners André Thomas and SchaOn Blodgett say Psinerger TechWarrior St. Paul is more than a traditional "technology repair company." Playing off the complementary and alternative-medicine side of the company, Psinerger TechWarrior St. Paul calls its computer techs "Windows

Therapists" and "Mac Therapists."

Both branches of the company are concerned about community, the environment, sustainability, the Earth and the rhythms of nature, as well as doing business in a balanced and honest way, Blodgett said.

The tech side of the business has been operating out of the partners' home for five years and has received the Angie's List Super Service Award three years in a row. Both branches of the business have been nominated for Better Business Bureau awards.

Blodgett is a regular guest speaker for the Nursing and Holistic Health Degree programs at Anoka-Ramsey Community College and teaches at Normandale College in Bloomington.

To find out more about the Psinerger, go to www.psinerger.info or stpaulvirusremoval.com.

Agharta Records opens on University

A new vinyl records store has opened on University Avenue. Agharta Records held its grand opening on Record Store Day, April 19.

Located at 2512 University Ave. W., Agharta plans to host in-store performances, book launches, listening parties, record releases and a large selection of new and used vinyl. The store will also buy used vinyl.

Dylan Adams, owner and

record collector, said opening his own store has been a lifelong dream of his. The store will also offer rock 'n' roll literature, a music-inspired film section and a digitizing service for those looking to preserve their valuable vinyl.

You can find Agharta Records on Twitter, @aghartarecords; on Facebook; and at aghartarecords.com.

Show your artistic side in the Bugle's St. Anthony Park Arts Festival special section in June and reach 30,000 regular readers and festival-goers.

Our full-color section features everything festival attendees need to know about the arts festival on Saturday, June 7. The paper will be handed out at information booths at the festival and will be available at the shops and restaurants in the area the week of the festival.

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To learn more, contact your ad representative:

Clare Caffrey (for businesses on the south side of Como Avenue) **651-270-5988** or clare.caffrey@parkbugle.org

Bradley Wolfe (for businesses on the north side of Como Avenue) **952-393-6814** or bradley.wolfe@parkbugle.org



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