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.

By Kristal Leebrick

District 12 zoning proposal meets opposition

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

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.”

To encourage that long-range creativity the $15,000 will be paid out over three years with the first $5,000 awarded this fall.
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/nominateatreepart2. 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 safe 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. Author and blogger Heather Holm-fink 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, 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 has set Thursday, April 24, for 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 Purley, Subdistrict 3; Bill Upham, Subdistrict 4; and Tedd James and Mary M. Ichalski, at-large. Kevin Dahm ran in a special election to fill a seat in Subdistrict 1. 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. Larpenteur 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 Larpenteur 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 Falconers 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 met 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. Residents are asked to 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 City 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 12 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.

Kapa Pond Cleanup

Join your friends and neighbors at the annual Kapa 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@spacc.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 all openings for business delegates on the board.

Email amy@spacc.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@spacc.org to get involved.

ольтбутоват

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.

You’ll receive a receipt from the sale of your donated 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 smdeans16@gmail.com.

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Hampden Park Co-op

Mayfest

Plant Sale

May 9, 10 & 11th

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annuals & perennials
flowering hanging baskets
GREAT PRICES!

Mayfest Activities!
Saturday May 11th ** 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Music & Food Sampling

928 Raymond St. Paul M-F 9-9, Sat. 9-7, Sun. 10-7
651-646-6686

CITY FILES
Como Park grads say college in Abu Dhabi is ‘surprisingly’ 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 of the admissions team’s top picks. Both were given full ride scholarships, including room, board and airfare for four years.

A multicultural education

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

“That was something I was 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 Brunette, 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 a multicultural education is a core part of the experience.

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The Bugle seeks board candidates

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

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PARK BUGLE ■ MAY 2014

L E T T E R S

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By Adam Granger

I often walk my dog past an empty lot in St. Anthony Park, where 1468 Raymond Avenue 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 grandparents lived there while their permanent residence, designed by my Norwegian grandfather, the architect Misagn Jernne, was being built on the corner of M unit 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, Etta Jernne was a painter of sufficient stature to have had one woman show at the Walker Art Center and, in the 1930s, 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 N.S.P. building and the old Lapham 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 Jernne Building—at Kellogg Boulevard and St. Peter Street in downtown St. Paul, and on their two daughters, one of whom was my mother.

Magnus married Dad and moved with him to Litchfield, N.Y. (whereby my brother was born), then to Madison, Wisc, (where I was born), and then to Denver. They finally settled, when I was 13, in Norman, Okla., where Dad was an English professor at the University of Oklahoma. This is where I first found myself.

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Meet the Bugle’s new sales team

COMMENTARY

Forty years a Minnesotan

By Adam Granger

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Meet the Bugle’s new sales team
Como Park/Central Cougars hockey team is looking for a place to hang their banner

Wanted: An ice arena to call home

a matter that remains in flux.

But getting the rink the team wants is

new rink to hang the team’s banner.

By Kristal Leebrick

high school players from across the
teams. The Blades is a cooperative
Snelling Avenue become the new
Arena on Energy Park Drive near
combined Como Park/Central high
athletic director who manages the
scrambling to find a new home.

arena in February.

The Cougars had been
practicing and playing for 15 years at the Lee & Rose Warner Coliseum at
Lee & Rose Warner Coliseum at

and Northwest Como at 651-298-

Here is a list of summer activities at the two centers

Youth sports registration for T-ball, Nantball, soccer, 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 651-208-7863 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.

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Summer activities at Langford and Northwest Como rec centers

Camps

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

Free.

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: 11:30 a.m., 10 sessions. Fee is $73 or $71 for seniors. Intermediate: 11 a.m.-noon, 10 sessions. Fees are $72 or $71 for seniors.

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

Free.

Cooking: Super Sippy Fun, ages 3-6, Monday-Friday, starts July 1, $40.

Outdoors A-Camping We’ll Go, ages 3-6, Monday-Friday, 10 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 3-6, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-noon, starts Aug. 4, $40.

Science/Tumbling, ages 6-12, Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-noon, starts July 12, $50.

Battle-Droids Camp, ages 6-12, Monday-Friday, 12:30-3:30 p.m., starts Aug. 18, $110.

Tuition: $50 for 12 sessions.

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

There are also the ACT, ages 5-12, Monday-Friday, 6-8 p.m., begins June 16, $50 for 5 sessions.

Sports camps baseball, soccer, volleyball, badminton, ultimate frisbee, flag football, sag golf, rugby, see the schedule online at www.stpaul.gov/documentcenter/view/71538.

Archery Camp, grades 3-12 completed, Monday-Friday, 8:30-10 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-sport 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.

And in early April, the North St. Paul Area Hockey Association announced it was working on a merger with the St. Paul Cougars 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 Rossville programs if the deal goes through, Mack said.

“There may be opportunities,” Mack said. “We’re waiting for things to sort out a bit.”

Wanted: An ice arena to call home

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

The Cougars had been practicing and playing for 15 years at the Lee & Rose Warner Coliseum at the Lee & Rose Warner Coliseum at Lee & Rose Warner Coliseum at
Lee & Rose Warner Coliseum at

and Northwest Como at 651-298-

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.

Summer activities at Langford and Northwest Como rec centers

Camps

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

Free.

Cooking: Super Sippy Fun, ages 3-6, Monday-Friday, starts July 1, $40.

Outdoors A-Camping We’ll Go, ages 3-6, Monday-Friday, 10 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 3-6, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-noon, starts Aug. 4, $40.

Science/Tumbling, ages 6-12, Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-noon, starts July 12, $50.

Battle-Droids Camp, ages 6-12, Monday-Friday, 12:30-3:30 p.m., starts Aug. 18, $110.

Tuition: $50 for 12 sessions.

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

There are also the ACT, ages 5-12, Monday-Friday, 6-8 p.m., begins June 16, $50 for 5 sessions.

Sports camps baseball, soccer, volleyball, badminton, ultimate frisbee, flag football, sag golf, rugby, see the schedule online at www.stpaul.gov/documentcenter/view/71538.

Archery Camp, grades 3-12 completed, Monday-Friday, 8:30-10 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-sport 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.
Salmon in Lake Como?

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 statehood.

Too much action, maybe. A newspaper in the 1850s 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.

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.

Aldrich was an enthusiastic angler, and his fish stories were as legendary as his hotel. He had a fish on board in the boat a couple of trolling lines. One of the women from the boat, just for the fun of the thing, took up one of them and started reeling in. It was so unexpected and savage that it almost threw her overboard. She hailed (sic) but stuck to the line and pulled him in like a little hero.

The newspaper 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.”

Concerns about overfishing prompted the Minnesota legislature to establish a Fish Commission in 1874. Shortly thereafter, funding was appropriated to establish the first state hatchery, at the park below the bluff 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. (Staver R. H. Offutt offers more detail in his article “Without Careful Consideration: Why Carp Swim in Minnesota 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. What a waste, the case, no fully grown salmon were ever 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 cpamuseum.org, articles/erin-oh-terywalk-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塘 fish from the lake. The DNR reared beluga, channel catfish, bluegill, 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 lawn spot on the shoreline. “Como … is a great lake for fast bluegill action,” according to a DNR publication. “All one needs is a shocker, bobber and some worm corn.” Good luck, anglers.

Well, briefly, but the lake was home to some mighty big northerns in the past.
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 M. Ellisville, a music faculty member at Carlton College in Northfield. Moen will play a number of piano solos.

Moen, who lives in University Park with his wife and son and is a reg-
ungarianbeam, teaches piano at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls joining the music faculty at the Lutheran Church for 19 years before retiring. She taught there in the early 1970s. She taught there for 26 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 Minneosta.

Thursday Musical has been presenting classical music programs in the Twin Cities since 1892, when a group of 12 Minneapolisis women established the organization. Initially called the Ladies Thursday Musicale, 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 community involved in the process.

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

Commentary from 5

thing the poor man ever did.

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.

“Thank you to our generous sponsors and all of the community-building efforts of our executive director, and we feel thrilled to celebrate.”

For more information, contact the foundation at 651-644-2816.

The deadline for applications is May 11.

The competition is open to any individual or group that serves the community involved in the process.

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

Commentary from 5

I’m wondering if it might not be time for me to just get a little bit of a break and apply for MINNESOTA citizenship.

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

Adam Granger lives in St. Anthony Park with his wife and son and is a reg-
ular contributor to the Park Bugle.
The Birdman of Lauderdale
by Clay Christensen

The bird lover’s dilemma
Putting out seed to draw birds to your yard can attract acaptors

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 seived as it checked out the feeders. I 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 and then flew 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 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 on 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.

I imagine being a potential target meal, thinking the threat was gone, and, whom, 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 Latin 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 takes its victim by construction.

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 to ab Horrible 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.

Feathers 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 muttering notable features to myself, and then, after its 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 nearly the entire time. Perhaps it’s because I think of birds as graceful songsters enjoying the freedom of flight and not evil birds, but it was perched on my fence.

And so it is the bird lover’s dilemma: putting out seed to draw birds also brings in a potential meal for a bird of prey.

There was no action at any of the feeding areas in the front yard and back by the alley, and those are the spots it checked out. It had probably gone 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 a bird of prey.

There was no bird action at the feeders for nearly an hour, so at least on this particular morning, I usually come away with the guilty feeling I get when I realize I have fed several bird species food that are likely to be snatched up by the Cooper’s hawk.

There was no bird action at the feeders for nearly an hour, so at least on this particular morning, I came away with the guilty feeling I get when I realize I have fed several bird species food that are likely to be snatched up by the Cooper’s hawk.

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 Fairgrounds 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.

During the festival for the first time are cheesemakers from Wisconsin, Illinois and Iowa, including Roadti Cheese Haus, Burnett Dairy, Marcon Jersey Creamery and Yellow River Dairy.

Other Midwest cheesemakers in attendance include Alexander Cheese Co., Caves of Faribault, Cottonwood Creamery, Eichten’s Hidden Acres, Ellsworth Creamery, Holland’s Family Cheese, Redhead Creamery, Sartori Cheese, Shepherd’s Way Farms, Swiss Valley Cheese and the Friendly Confines Cheese Shoppe.

Other artisan food producers will also be on hand to highlight products to pair with cheese, including Ames Farm, Bare Honey, Brooklyn Slate, David Towsley Woodworking Olive Oil, Tap Farms’ Pepper Jam and Tantalizing Taste.

The festival will include the following seminars and demonstrations: Midwest Supplies will host hourly cheesemaking demonstrations; Amuse! Wine will host wine and cheese pairing seminars (age 21+ only); a Perfect Pint will host beer and cheese pairing seminars (age 21+ only); and 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 bands: D’Amina and the Vagabonds will play one-hour sets at 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. The High 48s will play one-hour sets at 3:40 and 5:30 p.m. Big George Jackson Blue Band will play at 10:20 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Tickets are available in advance for $15 (plus processing fee at mnsheesfest.eventbrite.com). Limited tickets will be available at the door for $40, cash only.

For information on the 2014 Minnesota Cheese Festival, visit mnsheesfest.com.
Abu Dhabi from 3

generalizations rattled was a
welcome and regular experience, Ameliasmiled.
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.

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
center 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
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
and cultural offerings. They
speak fondly of the variety of
ethnic cuisines, socializing in
cafés over shish (tobacco
smoked in a water pipe, or
hookah) and frequently 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
troubling than many Westerners might
expect.

She might get awkward
stares on the street, but that’s
likely more due to cultural
differences in manner. 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.

Dean said 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.

“Was a beautiful train ride
and a very cool end to a very cool
trip,” she said.

When mom comes to visit
Ameliasmother, 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
situation. He showed Amelia and
her friend to their own private
Space

A beautiful train ride
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
drop down in one place, but I
wouldn’t 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 72.
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 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.

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

The U.S. Department of Natural Resources, and his Costa Rican-born wife, Ethelle.

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, cardinals, 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.

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 were: agriculture, industry and tourism. That still leaves us with health and education, which are the country’s main exports.

Tourism is the country’s largest industry, providing to Venezuela in exchange for gasoline. Some entrepreneurship is allowed, and many Cubans learn 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...
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.

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 body 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.

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Roger Bergerson is a regular contributor to the Park Bugle.

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

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 iatravel.com/north-america-caribbean/cuba.


School News

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

Avalon School

700 G. Lendale, St. Paul, 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 at 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 21. The students’ work—wacky film parodies of characters and scenes in the opera—was shown in the lobby of the Orpheum Center.

10,000 Things Theater Company

The 10,000 Things Theater Company is coming to Avalon on Monday, April 28, to perform “I’m Dirl Sticl” 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) at the end of the school year. At Avalon, the weeks of May 12 and May 19, Kevin Ward will be on hand to answer questions on 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 Theater’s Seats to Stage program. Teaching artists who will help students develop pieces that will be performed by students at the History Theater, 30th 10th St. E., St. Paul, on Wednesday, May 28.

Improv performances

This spring, Avalon students, working under the direction of Eric Webers, will learn improv skills and perform at their improv theater, 3037 Lydale Ave. S., Minneapolis on Friday, May 30, from 6 to 7 p.m.

Brimhall Elementary School

1744 W. County Road B

Great Brimhall Get-Together

The Great Brimhall Get-Together (formerly the International Festival) Friday, April 25, from 3 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 Kapling for her tireless leadership; to the student roots for the musical entertainment; the dozens of parents, staff and student volunteers and to the cake, raffle and silent auction donors.

‘Cinderella, Cinderella’

Sixth-grade performers “Cinderella, Cinderella” as two separate casts for school and community audiences the last week of April. The performers featured much laughter as well as community-building themes. Thank you to the directors, students, Roseville Foundation grant and parent carpoolers 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 Zabnicki and the kind volunteers who help students count piggybank coins as well as scan credit cards.

PTA meetings

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 Robo, PTA president, for his leadership the past two years, during which fundraising, community awareness and parent 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 room at 8 a.m. All 2013-14 volunteers are invited to attend and be honored for their hard work. “Bangel pride” means there are always plenty of volunteers to recognize.

Chelsea Heights Elementary

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

Spring carnival

Chelsea Heights Elementary will host its annual Spring Carnival on Friday, May 16, from 5 to 8 p.m. Presale tickets are available at the school. The new ticket prices this year are 50 cents per ticket. There will be games (with prizes), food truck raffles, bounce house, a climbing wall and other activities. There will also 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 Seib 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 Parkways.
651-293-8820, www.comosr.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 bounce houses, a snack wall, 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.comasr.spps.org

Summer Yale Scholars

Keith Eicher, a sophomore at Como Park Senior High School, will attend the Yale University program for promising young students. Eicher is a member of the National Honors Society and the Math Club. He will attend the Yale Summer Scholars program at Yale University this summer. The program 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 Middle School and 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 (SPN.N).

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 trash points (throwing the ball over the trash) 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 (the 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

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 Emmanuel Rivera were both awarded for their solos at the March festival. Vang sang “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, have performed and recorded in a studio and got feedback from McNally Smith faculty members (many of whom are professional working musicians) and the New York artists.

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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 Jennifer 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 Stableron.
**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; 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-3 SATURDAY

5:30-8:30 p.m.

2180 Knapp St., spring carnival, 5-8 p.m. Saturday (bag day), May 21, Irish dood, Martin Hayes and Dennis Collins at Celtic Junction, 8 p.m. Advanced tickets available at thecelticjunction.com or call 612-874-6892.

**11 Saturday**

Cover the anniversaries of Music in the Park and St. Anthony Park Foundation at Jaz 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 Stubhub.com/newstandards or call 651-292-3260.

**12 Monday**

Falconeers Card Club, Falcon Heights City Hall, 1:30 p.m.

Rev. Barbara Everett will speak on “What we need to know and remembered 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 foster care system, CHLSS, 10 a.m.-noon

**16 Friday**

YMCA Camps Widjajagan and du Nord Spring Garage Sale, Minnesota State Fairgrounds Merchandise Mart, 9 a.m.-7:30 p.m., Chelsea Heights Elementary School, 3557 Huron St., spring carnival, 5-8 p.m.

**21 Saturday**

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

Como Park Neighborhood Garage Sale, 10 plus sales. Go to district10comepark.org for a map and guide

**22 Thursday**

Panel discussion on “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 calligopowemenschoros.com.

**23 Friday**

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

**29 Thursday**

St. Anthony Park Area Senior Exercise Classes Tuesdays and Fridays, St. Anthony Park Library, 3-4 p.m.

**30 Friday**

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

**Venue Information**

Celtic Junction, 836 Prier Ave. N., CHLSS, Children’s Home & Lutheran Social Services, 1605 Eutis St., 651-466-7771

Corpus Christi Church, 2131 Fairview Ave. N., Fairview Community Center, 1910 W. County Road B, Roselie

City Hall, 207 Larpenteur Ave., 651-644-5050

Holy Childhood Church, 1435 W. County Road B, Roselle

Jazz in the Park with the New Standards, 1215 Roselawn Ave. W., 7:30 p.m. Donations accepted.

**Classifieds**

50 W. Lake St., 651-641-6944

SUNDAY ADVERTISERS

**Items sold in this week’s edition**

- A Home for a Lifetime: The Story of Worker Cooperatives, Cambridge House, 198 Main St. S., Northfield, 55057
- A Marathon of Men’s Voices, March 18, 6:30 p.m., St. Anthony Park Library, 6:30 p.m.
- A Marathon of Women’s Voices, May 11, 6:30 p.m., St. Anthony Park Library, 6:30 p.m.
- A Marathon of Youth Voices, June 14, 6:30 p.m., St. Anthony Park Library, 6:30 p.m.
- A New Beginning, July 20, 6:30 p.m., St. Anthony Park Library, 6:30 p.m.
- A Story of Hope, October 25, 6:30 p.m., St. Anthony Park Library, 6:30 p.m.
- A Story of Service, January 26, 6:30 p.m., St. Anthony Park Library, 6:30 p.m.
- A Story of Strength, March 15, 6:30 p.m., St. Anthony Park Library, 6:30 p.m.
- A Story of Triumph, May 18, 6:30 p.m., St. Anthony Park Library, 6:30 p.m.
- A Story of Triumph, June 22, 6:30 p.m., St. Anthony Park Library, 6:30 p.m.
- A Story of Triumph, September 7, 6:30 p.m., St. Anthony Park Library, 6:30 p.m.
- A Story of Triumph, November 16, 6:30 p.m., St. Anthony Park Library, 6:30 p.m.
- A Story of Triumph, December 13, 6:30 p.m., St. Anthony Park Library, 6:30 p.m.
- A Story of Triumph, January 10, 6:30 p.m., St. Anthony Park Library, 6:30 p.m.
- A Story of Triumph, March 7, 6:30 p.m., St. Anthony Park Library, 6:30 p.m.
- A Story of Triumph, May 30, 6:30 p.m., St. Anthony Park Library, 6:30 p.m.
- A Story of Triumph, July 21, 6:30 p.m., St. Anthony Park Library, 6:30 p.m.
- A Story of Triumph, September 14, 6:30 p.m., St. Anthony Park Library, 6:30 p.m.
- A Story of Triumph, November 9, 6:30 p.m., St. Anthony Park Library, 6:30 p.m.
- A Story of Triumph, December 21, 6:30 p.m., St. Anthony Park Library, 6:30 p.m.
- A Story of Triumph, January 18, 6:30 p.m., St. Anthony Park Library, 6:30 p.m.
Concerts taking place throughout the month:

Martin Hayes & Nollaig Casey at Celtic Junction, 836 Prior Ave. N., on Friday, May 16, at 8 p.m.

Calliope Women’s Chorus will perform at the Lab at the Lyric, 765 N. Hampden Ave., St. Paul, on Saturday, May 17, at 7 p.m. and feature items such as a handmade item, gift certificates, luxury items and more. All proceeds go to the Y.M.C.A. camps. For more information, call 651-645-6605.

Fourth in the Park needs you! 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.

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 Eater Seals, 553 Fairview Ave. N., in Room 123. For more information, call NAMI at 651-645-2948.

Mobile: barb@lyndenrealty.com
Phone: 651-228-0404
Office: 651-228-0400

Arona Child Development Center earns national accreditation

Arona Child Development Center, located on the Humbry 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 children of families in the community.

Located in a former dormitory on campus, the building was renovated in 2006 to provide on-site parenting dorm rooms on the second and third levels and the child care center in the basement level. The center’s director, Angela Karp, opened Arona in October 2011 after the Head Start program closed earlier that year.

The center is seeking an extensive 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 aronacd.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 more information, call NAMI at 651-645-2948.

Anxiety support group meets at Goodwill twice a month

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. Flag 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, Flag 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 Forestville 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. Flag will talk about why he photographs nature, the creative process, the hazards of photographing nature and where to find subjects to photograph.

To help support this free program, a social time with refreshments begins at 6:45 p.m. For more information, call Linda Goodspeed at 651-647-1452.

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 annual July 4 celebration in St. Anthony Park, need help staffing 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 M Innese State Horticultural Society’s garden at the M Innese State Fair and a scholarship given to a University of Minnesota student majoring in horticulture.

Questions? Contact Sandee Klay at kfsk005@umn.edu.

Native Plant Expo is June 7

Hiring a hard time finding native plant nurseries in the metro area? The Landscape Festival on Saturday, June 7, at 9 a.m., at supplier’s expense. Purchase native plants from 12 area growers and learn about pollinators and how natives help protect water resources. The event runs from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Rainbow Foods Community Pavilion, Larpentain and Fernwood avenues, Roseville.

Holy Childhood rummage sale runs May 1 to May 3

The Church of the Holy Childhood, 1435 M Iway 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.

Neighbors

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.

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

Support Camps Wiigjivan and du Nord at annual garage sale

Shop and support YMCA Camps Wiigjivan and du Nord at the annual garage sale on Saturday, May 3, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Call Jenny at 651-645-4700 or go to www.ymcaofmn.org.

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The friendly neighborhood drug store is not a thing of the past!

We're on the verge of a great American Renaissance! We are the ones we have been waiting for. We can change society and our world!

Schneider Drug

We are a nation never came to grips with our history of slavery. It's time to call for a national conference on these past issues and how it affects our future.

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.)

Two Murray students received Middle School Paper Awards: Valerie Banes and Isak Stoll-Willard-Jardin. Grand Awards went to Lily Xiong (Bronze), Gayathri Dileepan (Silver), and Daniel Ellis and Forrest Ahrens (both Gold). Dan 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 9, 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—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.
Jeanne Ficocello

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 (Zack); brother, David Larson (Joan); and sister, Janice Larson (Roger). A memorial visitation was held March 26 at Mueller-Boutler 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 his children, Jennifer (Joe), Jordi (Dave), Heather (Eric), Andrew (Janine), and Tommy; eight grandchildren; mother, Donna Holmes; and siblings, Janet (Doug) Fairbanks and Ron (Deb Danian). A memorial service was held April 3 at Mueller-Boutler Funeral Home, Roseville.

Robert Hamer

Robert H. Hammur, 89, of Como Park, died Feb. 10, in Delitz, Fla. He is survived by his wife, Lu; his six daughters, Susan, Martha, Terry, Mary, Pat and Brenda; seven grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. He was a proud member and past president of construction workers Local 152.

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

Robert Lamb

Robert E. Lamb, 67, of Falcon Heights, died March 26. He was predeceased in death by his parents, Arthur and Dorothy. He is survived by his wife of 27 years, Barb; children, Kristine and Benjamin; and brother, Greg. He was a proud member and past president of construction workers Local 152.

Mass of Christian burial was celebrated April 1 at Church of St. Cecilia, St. Anthony Park.

Charlotte Hansen

Charlotte Hansen, 99, died March 31. She 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.

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Charlotte Hansen, 99, died March 31. She 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.
Your gifts provide the financial and moral support needed to continue our mission to maintain levels of independence and interdependence for seniors and their caregivers in the St. Anthony Park area, integrating health services, social services, community activities, education and advocacy. There is no way to fully express our gratitude.

We at St. Anthony Park Area Seniors are continually inspired by the dedication and generosity of donors like you who answer the call to give.
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).

N ine 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 am-8 p.m., and Sunday, 11 am-5 p.m. 

Other area venues for the Spring crawl include Carlson Place Lofts, 2285 W. University Ave; the Bindery Building, 700 Vandalia St; Hancock Recreation Center, 1610 H ubbard Ave.; and M I MBA Potters 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.stpaularclaw.org.

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

Como residents Meg Whitson and Stephanie Pituc will perform with the Twin Cities Women’s Choir (TCWC) at the choir’s annual Di vas and D eserts Gala on Friday, May 9, and Saturday May 10, at St. Mary’s Greek Orthodox Church, 3450 Irving Ave S., Minneapoli s.

This year’s gala theme is “M innesota N I lfe” featuring musical stories about growing up and living in Minnesota. In keeping with TCWC’s mission of supporting new choral by and for women, the choir will present two new works written specifically for this concert: the debut of Biddle (“where two waters come together”), a piece by M inneapolis composer Janika Vanderheide and supported by donations to a project funded through G i veMN, N., and F ungtown R inocer. A piece sponsored by the Carol Rue Commission Fund and composed by TCWC’s assistant director, R andi G rundahl Enroth. 

The event will include music, deserts 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.

Presale admission for adults is $25 and $22 for seniors and students. Tickets will be sold at the door for $30. Order tickets at www.T wincitieswomenz.co m or call 612-333-8929.

**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. Practic e starts 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 M SHL status.

All registration is done on the SPYLA website and you can find more information there: spyla.org and you can find more information there: spyla.org. To add your church to the directory, contact Bradley Wolfe at 952-393-6814 or bradley.wolfe@parkbugle.org
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 Mualua, 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 to 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’ve 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.

After 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.

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 Paradise 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 D on M Marshall at Peapods and Jon Schumacher with the St. Anthony Park Community Foundation to form a group that hopes will collaborate to bring events and promotions to drive more customers into the neighborhood. — Kristal Labriski.
Classifieds

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

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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 art program, says the gallery is important to her as an emerging artist.

“I’m just coming into the arts community; 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,” Bob said. “We’ll see even more foot traffic and are looking forward to growing.”

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 and poetry readings, book launches, listening parties, record releases and a large selection of new and used vinyl. The store will also buy used vinyl.

“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 viewing 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 622-963-5507 or email crc@peoplesgallery.org) or check out their calendar at peoplesgallery.org. They also maintain a Facebook page at www.facebook.com/peoplesgallery.MP1. You can see Ayannahs work at writing and digital images services at penandmoon.com.

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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.

Painergy (pronounced sin-er-jie) TechWarrior St. Paul (the computer-repair company) and Painergy Natural Health and Holistic Wellness (for humans) will open on May 1 at 1533 Como Ave., across the street from N’elson Cheese and Deli and Café 99 and next to Bliss Yoga and Beloved Tattoo.

Business partners André Thomas and Schalonn Blodgett say Painergy TechWarrior St. Paul is more than a traditional “technology repair company.” Playing off the complementary and alternative medicine side of the company, Painergy 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 the 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 Painery, go to www.painery.info or stpaulvirusremoval.com.