



Swarm busters

Who you gonna call when a swarm of bees hover into your yard?

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Canoeing with the girls

No aches, pains or joint replacements will stop this annual trek to the BWCA.

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Walk the (Green) line

Take a tour of businesses near the Raymond Avenue station.

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Celebrating 40 years of award-winning, community-supported news

Park Bugle

St. Anthony Park / Falcon Heights
Lauderdale / Como Park

www.parkbugle.org
September 2014

1951 tragedy ended stunt flying at Minnesota State Fair

By Roger Bergerson

It was Labor Day 1951, and what would turn out to be the last aerial thrill show ever at the Minnesota State Fair had 26,000 spectators on the edge of their seats.

The little red-and-cream biplane with a young woman on its upper wing sped through a series of acrobatic maneuvers as the grandstand announcer described the action and emphasized how dangerous it all was.

Kitty Middleton, real first name Pansy, a 17-year-old from the Missouri Ozarks, was performing in only her third air show. At the plane's controls was former military pilot Carl Ferris, 27, of Lansing, Mich.

As usual, the act's finale was to be an engine-off dive, then a



Chuck Doyle Jr. flies the sister ship of the one that crashed in 1951. His father used this plane to tow banners over the Minnesota State Fair for many years. Adam Glowaski & Box5 Media

dramatic, power-on climb, followed by a triumphant pass by the grandstand. But this time something went wrong. The plane failed to come out of the dive, crashing about a half-mile to the north near

Larpenteur Avenue.

There was a collective gasp from the crowd as first a pillar of fire rose from the crash site, then a cloud of black smoke.

Ferris died on impact, the force

of which tore Middleton from the straps that held her to the wing, tossing her 75 feet away. She died about an hour later at the Northern

1951 tragedy to 18

Family Reunion

Children's Home Society, Lutheran Social Services celebrate a combined 275 years of adoption

By Judy Woodward

Early in September 1889, a small notice appeared in the "The Social World" column of the Minneapolis Tribune. Tucked in between reports of the "lemon squeeze social" at Hamline Hall and the second annual entertainment of St. John's Catholic Total Abstinence Society was a brief paragraph noting that "the young ladies who have been doing such efficient [charity] work" had given their group a name—the Children's Aid Society.

It was the first appearance in print of what would become a mighty force for the welfare of homeless and adopted children throughout Minnesota and beyond. The Children's Aid Society changed its name to the Children's Home Society in 1896, and in 1903 it opened the first of what would become several landmark buildings in St. Anthony Park.

On Sunday, Sept. 21, the Children's Home Society of Minnesota will throw itself a 125th

birthday party outdoors at the Luther Seminary Field at Como Avenue and Eustis Street, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Joining with Lutheran Social Services, another longtime Minnesota child-welfare organization

what they are calling "Family Reunion: Celebrating 275 Years of Adoption."

There will be entertainment, food and games for the kids. Everyone is welcome, but organizers are issuing a special invitation to families and descendants of the estimated 46,000 children who have been adopted through the two organizations since Lutheran Social Services opened in 1865. They've set up a special website www.adoption275.org for adoptees and their loved ones to "Share Your Story" through photos, memorabilia and memories.

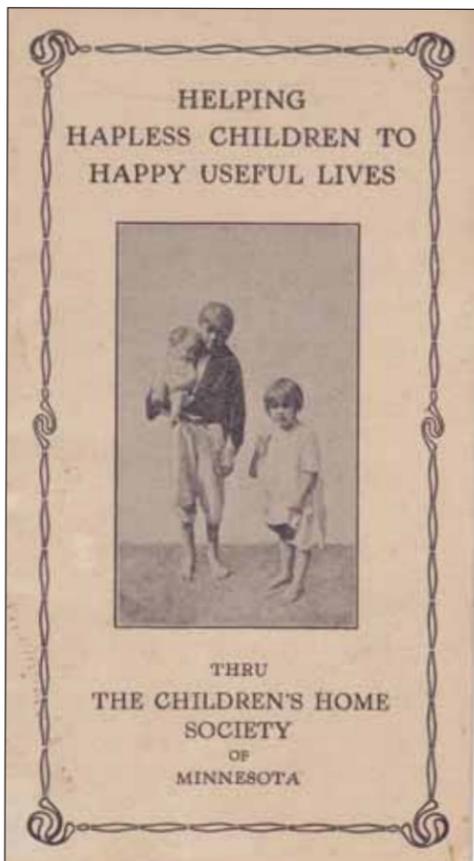
When asked to reflect on the changes that have occurred over the last century and a quarter for the Children's Home Society, Alexis Oberdorfer, senior director of adoption, prefers to emphasize continuity. "There's a little bit of full circle back" to the organization's early

days, she explains, particularly when it comes to the age of children waiting for adoption.

"Children placed through the orphan train movement [of the late 19th and early 20th centuries] were older and they often involved sibling groups" looking for placements that would allow them to stay together. "That resonates today," says Oberdorfer.

Nevertheless, some adoption procedures have changed dramatically over the century-plus since the society's annual report of 1901, which described the group's efforts to pass legislation "checking the desertion of babies and leaving them on doorsteps." International adoptions were unknown in those days, and the 1901 report pointed out that "the majority of the

Children's Home to 6



15 years of philanthropy

Celebrate the Saint Anthony Park Community Foundation's 15th anniversary on Friday, Sept. 19, 7-10 p.m., at the Urban Growler Brewing Co., 2325 Endicott St., St. Anthony Park. The free event will feature music, a trivia contest and the announcement of the winner of the 15 years, \$15,000 grant contest. Read more on page 8.

and the society's institutional partner since 2012, the two groups will hold

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 each month at the Historic Streetcar Station, 1224 N. Lexington Parkway.

City Councilmember Russ Stark to speak at September meeting

Ward 4 City Councilmember Russ Stark will be the guest at the September District 10 Como Community Council Meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 16, at the Historic Streetcar Station, 1224 N. Lexington Parkway. Stark will provide an update on city priorities and answer questions from the audience.

Take an audio tour of Como Regional Park's history

Under the leadership of Sharon Shinomiya, volunteers from the District 10 Como Community Council have created a free audio tour and printable guide describing the history of Como Regional Park. The tour features anecdotes about well-known park landmarks, such as the Lakeside Pavilion and conservatory, as well as lesser-known treasures. Download the guide and access the audio tour at district10comopark.org.

Pancake breakfast, silent auction will raise funds for District 10

The District 10 Como Community Council will host its annual pancake breakfast and silent auction fundraiser on Saturday, Oct. 25, 8-11 a.m., at the Hubert H. Humphrey Job Corps Center, 1480 Snelling Ave. N. The event will feature an all-you-can-eat pancake-and-sausage breakfast, beverages, a children's activity center and Halloween costume parade, and a silent auction featuring unique local items. Donations for the silent auction are welcome. Call 651-644-3889 or email district10@district10comopark.org to donate or to buy tickets. Buy now and save \$1 per ticket.

Falcon Heights

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

Falcon Heights residents can register to win Little Free Library

The Falcon Heights Neighborhood Commission will give away two Little Free Libraries made and installed by the local Lions Club in September. What is a Little Free Library? Small boxes full of books where anyone may stop by and pick up a book or two and bring back another book to share. The deadline to enter the Falcon Heights contest is Monday, Sept. 15. You can pick up an entry form at City Hall, 2077 W. Larpenteur Ave., or go online at falconheights.org to find one.

How to catch the Green Line

Wonder how to catch the Green Line from Falcon Heights? You can take a Metro Transit Route 83 bus, which has a stop at the Roseville Super Target on County Road B and Snelling Avenue, and it will take you to the train's Lexington Parkway Station. For more information, go to metrotransit.org.

Family Fun Run is Sept. 13

The Falcon Heights/Lauderdale 5k Family Fun Run will be held Saturday, Sept. 13, at Community Park, 2050 Roselawn Ave. The event begins at 8 a.m. Race-day registration will begin at 7 a.m. You can register early at falconheights.org. Click on Parks & Recreation to find out more.

Donate your garden produce

The City of Falcon Heights is sponsoring an "Adopt-a-Crop" program, and residents are encouraged to bring their garden produce to City Hall, to be donated to a local food shelf. Find out more at falconheights.org.

Learn about police academy

Falcon Heights residents are invited to participate in the St. Anthony

Police Department's Citizen Police Academy. Find out more about it below.

Lauderdale

The Lauderdale City Council meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in Lauderdale City Hall, 1891 Walnut St.

Citizen Police Academy begins in September in St. Anthony

The St. Anthony Police Department will host a Citizen Police Academy Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Sept. 4 to Oct. 23. The free eight-week course is designed to educate community members about the inner workings of the police department. Participants must be at least 21 years old, work or reside in St. Anthony, Falcon Heights or Lauderdale, and submit to a background check. Contact Officer Tressa Sunde, 612-782-3371 or Tressa.Sunde@ci.saint-anthony.mn.us to find out more.

Family Fun Run is Sept. 13

Lauderdale residents are invited to participate in the Falcon Heights/Lauderdale 5k Family Fun Run on Saturday, Sept. 13. Find out more in the Falcon Heights news section at left.

Lauderdale hosts farmer's market

The City of Lauderdale will host a farmer's market from 4 to 7 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 18, at Lauderdale City Park, 1885 Fulham St. Sassy Spoon Food Truck will be at the market 4 to 8 p.m. Email lauderdalefarmersmarket@gmail.com or call Susie 651-329-8401 to learn more.

St. Anthony Park

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

SAP garage sale is Sept. 13

The annual St. Anthony Park garage sale will be held Saturday, Sept. 13, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m..

To participate, fill out a registration form at sapcc.org/garagesale2014 and submit it with \$15 to St. Anthony Park Community Council, 890 Cromwell Ave. St. Paul, MN 55114 by noon, Tuesday, Sept. 9.

The \$15 registration fee includes listing your address in a map of garage sale locations distributed at Speedy Market, Hampden Park Co-op and on Craigslist; a handmade garage sale sign delivered, posted and picked up at your address; and ads in the Park Bugle, Pioneer Press, Star Tribune and Craigslist.

Contact Rich Nelson at 651-641-1172 for more information.

Party at Raymond Station Sept. 6

C4Ward will be celebrating arts and culture along the new Green Line at the Raymond Station on Saturday, Sept. 6, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event will include a woodworkers competition, table tennis tournament, SparkIt Mobile Trailer, onsite letterpress activities and more.

Artists and businesses interested in participating should email Amy Sparks at amy@creativeenterprisezone.org.

Find out more at facebook.com/C4wardArts.

Run for the community council

The St. Anthony Park Community Council (SAPCC) is looking for candidates to run for the board this fall. Elections will be held in October. Email SAPCC executive director Suyapa Miranda, suyapa@sapcc.org, to learn more.

Community cleanup needs you

This year's community cleanup at the Minnesota State Fair grounds will be held Saturday, Sept. 20. The annual event is a one-day, one-stop drop for all those tough-to-toss items like electronics, major appliances and

construction materials. District 12 needs your help to make it a success. Volunteers get free admission and drop-off, and complimentary food and drink. Volunteers are needed to fill two shifts: 7:30 to 11 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Email Lauren Fulner, lauren@hamlinemidway.org, or call 651-214-6788 to sign up. Watch your mailbox for the cleanup flier with more information.

You can also learn more at sapcc.org/cleanup2014.

ADU task force members named

The District 12 Community Council Land Use Committee has named 10 St. Anthony Park residents to a task force to study the potential effects of allowing accessory dwelling units (ADUs) to be built in neighborhood. The members will meet monthly for six months to study the issue. The task force members are Claudia Wielgorecki, Glen Skovholt, James Stout, John Seltz, Karen Hovland, Mark Thieroff, Nancy Plagens, Nick Thomey, Phil Carlson and Suzanne Garfield.

Recycle electronics in Roseville on Sept. 27

Peace Lutheran Church in Lauderdale will partner with Tech Dump, an electronics recycling nonprofit, to collect unwanted electronics (gently used, obsolete or damaged) on Saturday, Sept. 27, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Cub Foods pavilion (formerly Rainbow Foods) at Fernwood and Larpenteur avenues in Roseville.

The event is a fundraiser for the church's roof project.

Bring computers, cell phones,

electrical cords, internal and external drives, other miscellaneous electronic accessories, TVs and monitors. (There may be a \$15-45 fee for CRT TVs and monitors—nonflat panels.)

Tech Dump will destroy all information and data at its facility in Golden Valley. Tech Dump is a Minnesota and Hennepin County licensed electronics recycler.

To find out more and for a list of accepted items, visit TechDump.org/PeaceLauderdale.

Hockey registration at Langford is Sept. 9

Registration for Langford Park Hockey is set for Tuesday, Sept. 9, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Langford Park Rec Center, 30 Langford Park.

Forms can be found at www.langfordparkhockey.com.

Registration will be accepted for

Mini-Mites (ages, 3-6), Mites (ages 7-8), Squirts (ages 9-10), PeeWees (ages 11-12) and Bantams (ages 13-14).

Questions? Contact Scott Hamilton at 651-329-8609 or scotth@langfordparkhockey.com.

Como Women's Golf Club marks 80 years

Como Women's Golf Club will celebrate its 80th anniversary on Sunday, Sept. 14, with golfing, a dinner and a program commemorating the landmark.

All former club members are invited to the Como Park Golf Course at 1 p.m. that day for a nine-hole Shotgun followed by the dinner and program, from 4:30-6 p.m.

Cost is \$35, which includes nine holes, a shared riding cart, snacks and the dinner, or \$12 for just the dinner and program.

Contact Kathy Zieman at razieman2004@msn.com or 651-488-1916 for more information.

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SWARM CATCHERS

One woman's tale of finding help when a mass of bees buzzed into her yard

By D. J. Alexander

Arriving at my Falcon Heights home from a Fourth of July outing this summer, I slammed the car door, opened the backyard gate and heard what sounded like distant chainsaws or thousands of bees buzzing.

I looked up to see that it was the latter—a swirling, gliding mass of honeybees moving as one and hovering 15 feet above my head. The swarm seemed to grow denser by the minute.

Swarming is a natural process of bee colony reproduction. A hive in my neighborhood had likely become too crowded, so the queen exited with more than half of her sister-bees to seek a new place to live, whether it be an empty tree cavity, the walls of a house or a neighbor's attic.

From what I'd read, I knew that bees on the move were full of honey and preoccupied, thus unlikely to sting. As I watched, they soon settled down, covering a branch of the crabapple tree in the corner of our yard, where they hung in a dense, moving, oval mass about the size of a pig on a spit.

Knowing we didn't want those bees to move into a house wall, I began phoning local bee suppliers. On this holiday weekend, one place was closed; another supplier was out of town. On my third call, to the Beez Kneez in Minneapolis, we were referred to Joe Meyer, co-owner of Four Seasons Apiaries (fourseasonsapiaries.com, 320-493-8933). He said he'd drive right over.

Four Seasons is a new firm looking toward breeding bees that can flourish in Minnesota's climate. Four Seasons also catches swarms.

Educated as an engineer and a beekeeper since the age of 16, Meyer had spent a year working with the head wrangler of the University of Minnesota's beekeeping operation before starting his own business. He was quite familiar with Falcon Heights.

A slender, compact 29-year-old, Meyer donned a safari hat with a bug veil but no other special protective clothing and climbed a ladder to



D.J. Alexander's July swarm settled onto a crabapple tree.

check out the swarm. He took a quick video, he said, of "scout" bees returning from forays out. Scouts do what is known as "the Waggle Dance" to communicate the direction and distance of potential sites, he said.

Then Meyer set to work, trimming a few branches out of the way and placing a box with frames called a "super" on the lawn. He climbed the ladder with an empty cardboard box, shook the branch firmly to dislodge most bees into the box and climbed down to pour the box's contents into the super. Neatly done.

Covering the super with a piece of weighted burlap, he retraced his steps, re-climbed the ladder, and shook the branch a second time. This time, Meyer set the cardboard box on its side, facing the super's entrance. Afterward, he sat down with a proffered cup of tea to talk. The rest was a waiting game, he said.

If Meyer had succeeded at shaking out the queen, all the workers would soon follow her. He was, and they did. The bees in the box and crawling stragglers on the lawn began to pour into the hive opening in a steady stream. Worker bees are chemically drawn to the queen and care for her needs. Her presence in the beehive, as the only fully reproductive member, ensures its future. She lays eggs that become new bees.

Along with swarm-catching,

Four Seasons breeds new queens for sale. On the company's blog, you can read about grafting queen candidates—larvae of a certain age—into artificial queen cells. Using sustainable practices, Meyer and his business partner rear such queens to optimize colony traits for winter survival in the Upper Midwest. They plan to sell surviving "overwintered" colonies next May.

"Winter provides a test," Meyer said. "It weeds out the weaker ones."

While, to many people, all striped insects with stingers look alike, honeybees actually represent a small subset of pollinators. One species, *Apis mellifera*, has been bred for centuries to accentuate positive characteristics, such as docile disposition, high honey production, resistance to disease and hardiness in the local climate.

By now folks have surely heard of Africanized bees, whose aggressive hive defense earned them the nickname "killer," but the vast majority of honeybees buzzing around here originated from southern and central Europe, the boot of Italy in particular. Those bees are under threat.

In recent years commercial beekeepers have suffered devastating colony losses from colony collapse disorder (CCD). Bees today face risks from insecticides, viruses, mites and habitat loss. Plus, last winter was a doozy.

"A lot of beekeepers I heard from suffered much bigger losses," Meyer said. At the same time the number of wild or "feral" colonies, along with native pollinators, has declined, so saving swarms is good practice.

Four Seasons salvages bee swarms that have taken up residence inside buildings, without damaging either one. Recently Meyer and his partner, who is a building contractor, saved a swarm that had moved into the overhang of a bay window in a building with a cedar-shake roof. They entered the attic on a mid-July day he describes as "blazing hot,"

Swarm to 8

Music in the Park Series 2014-15 concert season begins in October

The Twin Cities debut of the Danish String Quartet will open the 2014-15 season of the Schubert Club's Music in the Park Series on Sunday, Oct. 12. The New York Times described the group's 2012 performance of Beethoven's Opus 132 at the Scandinavia House in New York City as "one of the most powerful renditions" of the piece.

Each season, the Music in the Park Series presents six chamber music concerts at St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ, 2129 Commonwealth Ave.

All concerts are held on Sundays at 4 p.m. with a preconcert talk beginning at 3 p.m.

The other five concerts in the series include the Miami String Quartet with Lydia Artymiw on piano on Oct. 26, Ensemble Caprice on Nov. 23, Schubert Ensemble of London on Feb. 15, St. Lawrence String Quartet on April 19 and guitar duo Sergio and Odair Assad on May 10.

The concerts have capitalized on the intimacy of St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ (capacity

350) since artistic director Julie Himmelstrup founded the series in 1979. The concerts draw chamber music lovers (performers, composers and audience members alike) to the Sunday afternoon presentations.

Music in the Park Series six-concert subscriptions are \$132. Discounts are available for students. Single tickets start at \$25.

Purchase tickets online at boxoffice.ordway.org/schubert/Online or call the box office at 651-292-3268.

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EDITORIAL

This, that and the other thing

As we were heading to press last week, we learned that the building that houses the U.S. Post Service's Como Station at 2286 Como Ave. in St. Anthony Park was up for sale. That bit of news came as a surprise to the post office itself, according to Postal Service employee Annette Edeburn. The Postal Service has rented the building since 1970 and does not own it.

Lorraine McCann and her late husband, Harold, bought the building in 1955. Harold ran it as a Phillips station and garage, known as State Wide Engine Rebuilding. That business went hand-in-hand with McCann's love of stock car racing. He won the 1961 State Fair Minnesota Classic in a '61 Ford. McCann had offered the building for sale in 1996. It was for sale for two years before it went off the market. At that time, the building was assessed at a market value of \$156,000.

Cory Kingbay, the realtor representing Lorraine McCann, said the property is listed for sale at \$799,900.

Como Station is a busy hub in the neighborhood and a convenient station for many in the area. Let's hope that whoever buys the building will keep renting it to the U.S. Postal Service.

Welcome to the Bugle's new board members

September brings changes to Park Press, the nonprofit board of directors that publishes the Park Bugle. Four board members who spent the last three to six years lending their expertise in helping navigate the Bugle through some

tough economic times have ended their terms. Nancy Olsen, Mark Johanson, Nate Flink and Bruno Bornsstein: Thank you for your time and immense talents.

We have three new board members taking the helm this month. They are P.J. Pofahl, Betsy Currie and Molly MacGregor. This paper owes its longevity to the dozens of volunteers who have governed the operations of the Bugle since its inception in 1974. Welcome to our new board members.

And speaking of longevity

The Saint Anthony Park Community Foundation marks its 15th year in September, and you can read all about it on page 8. The foundation is directly responsible for helping launch, sustain and bolster a number of initiatives and institutions in the neighborhood. From the environmental education programs at Murray Middle and St. Anthony Park Elementary schools and the elementary school's artist residency program to St. Anthony Park Area Seniors (the former block nurse program) to the Schubert Club's Music in the Park Series to the Park Bugle, the foundation has lent a hand and strengthened the bonds in the neighborhood.

To the many volunteer board members who have served the foundation over the last 15 years and to Jon Schumacher, the executive director extraordinaire, well done!

Small is beautiful . . . and vulnerable

The Park Bugle began publishing in summer 1974, and to mark the 40th anniversary of this community newspaper, we will publish pieces from back issues in the coming months. This editorial, written by editor Dave Healy in June 2003, seems just as appropriate today as it did 11 years ago.

What do people want in a neighborhood?

Recent events provide some clues about what Bugle readers value in the areas where they live. In Falcon Heights, the impending Town Square development reflects that community's decision to replace an older commercial area with mixed-use construction that combines housing and retail establishments.

In St. Anthony Park, housing is also on people's minds, as witnessed by discussion at a May 6 neighborhood forum that revealed a strong consensus for maintaining a variety of affordable housing options.

St. Anthony Park residents have been prompted recently to weigh in on other issues as well. The threatened closing of the South St. Anthony recreation center drew strong opposition, making it clear that the neighborhood highly values that resource.

Other community assets were affirmed in responses to a neighborhood survey conducted by urban geographer David Lanegran. Residents listed green space, the library and effective schools as things they liked about their community. The survey also revealed a strong value for varied, accessible shopping areas.

Two themes emerge from these events: diversity and accessibility. People like variety—in housing, in shopping, in a mix of developed and undeveloped land. And they like being close to the places they depend on for shopping, recreation and edification.

But maintaining diversity and accessibility is an enterprise fraught with peril. Commercial, educational and recreational facilities close to where people live are threatened by a bigger-is-better mindset. The neighborhood drugstore, gas station, grocery store, barbershop, hardware store, post office—all are endangered species. So are neighborhood schools and recreation centers.

One way local establishments cope with the threat of being overshadowed or swallowed up is by trying to attract people from outside the community. So a neighborhood school becomes a magnet school. A store or restaurant tries to become a "destination" for people who may live far away. But what happens to the neighborhood feel of these places in the process?

Small may be beautiful but it's also vulnerable. What's the future of such longstanding local establishments as Micawber's

Bookstore or Blomberg Pharmacy or Herbst Food Market or Noll Hardware? How about the Como Station Post Office? Or neighborhood elementary schools like Chelsea Heights or St. Anthony Park? Or recreation centers like Langford, South St. Anthony or Northwest Como?

If the small enterprise can't compete, it will fold. The resulting reduction in accessibility makes a community less attractive. Ironically, however, success can threaten the other thing people value about their neighborhood: diversity. Communities perceived as successful become attractive to outsiders, which causes real estate to appreciate, which makes housing affordable to an ever-narrower range of buyers, which makes neighborhoods less heterogeneous.

Healthy neighborhoods are a precious but fragile resource.

Corrections

In the August article "15 trees make Como's 2014 list" by Sharon Shinomiya, the story was edited to read that Amy Braun's father planted an apple tree at 1476 Huron St. in 1947. It was Amy Braun's grandfather, Joseph Braun, the father of Amy's mother, Mary Jo Braun, who planted the tree the same year that Mary Jo was born. Amy nominated the apple tree for the Como Community Council's annual Tree Appreciation Awards as a Mother's Day gift to Mary Jo.

Wondering where the Kasota Ponds are? A reader called to complain about just that after our August issue came out. We printed two letters from St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church Vacation Bible School students who had taken a field trip to the ponds and found a lot of "garbage and junk" in the area. The students and the Bugle neglected to mention the location of the ponds, which are on the southwest side of the intersection of Highway 280 and Kasota Avenue.

Thanks for supporting the Park Bugle

We thank the following Park Bugle readers who contributed to the Bugle's 2013-14 fund drive. This list reflects those who gave from May 31 to Aug. 18. The Bugle relies on tax-deductible donations to help defray the newspaper's annual operating costs. You 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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Businesses

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C O M M E N T A R Y

The Park Bugle welcomes letters and commentaries from our readers. Opinions expressed by our readers do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Bugle staff or board members. Send your submissions to editor@parkbugle.org or to Editor, Park Bugle, P.O. Box 8126, St. Paul, MN 55108. The deadline for the October issue is Wednesday, Sept. 10.

Black flies, mosquitoes, joint replacements won't keep these women from their annual Boundary Waters trip

By Michelle Christianson

Last summer I had both of my hips replaced within a six-week span (another whole story), which kept me from doing many of the things that make summer so enjoyable. One of the activities I missed the most was going on my Boundary Waters canoe trip with my women friends.

The group I go with is an offshoot of a Roseville Lutheran Church women's trip, begun in 1988 as a way to help women feel strong and capable. Anne Kersey went with them in 1989, joined by neighbors Joan Duke and Ginner Ruddy in 1990 and 1991. In 1992 those three started their own group, along with Betty Swanson and Judy Flinn. Over the years 17 other women (including several of the women's daughters and me) took part in one or more of the trips; I joined in 1998 and have gone on every trip since except for last year. For the last five years, our group has included Kersey, Ruddy, Duke, Kathy Wellington and me, all of St. Anthony Park, and Nancy Nelson, of Roseville.

There are many reasons we joined the canoe group. We all like to go with just women—it makes for a less strenuous, less competitive, more relaxing experience. Everyone pitches in and works together. Many of us went to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness when we were younger, and this annual trip makes us feel like we did then. And, really, the BWCA is the most beautiful place.

What's remarkable about our trip is we do everything ourselves



The wilderness trekkers, from left: Michelle Christianson, Nancy Nelson, Kathy Wellington, Ginner Ruddy, Anne Kersey, Joan Duke. Photo courtesy of Seagull Outfitters

without an outfitter. We have the use of three canoes, four tents, all the packs we need, cooking equipment and all the personal gear needed for a wilderness camping trip. We plan all our routes and meals (with no dried food), get the permits, and portage and paddle when and where we like.

Even more remarkable is that we still go. Many of us are or have been strong athletes, enjoying swimming, hiking, biking and cross-country skiing, but this year, one woman was 73, two were 72, one 65, one 64 and the "baby" was 58. We've replaced or are contemplating replacing joints, and aches and pains don't disappear as fast as they did when we were younger. Nevertheless, though we don't do as much portaging as we used to (which is a good thing,

considering we had three canoes and eight packs this year), we still paddle well—including this July on giant Saganaga Lake with a pretty good wind. And because we realize how fleeting life is, we enjoy the experience even more than when we took it for granted that we could do it.

Over the years, the canoe group has gone out of Ely, Sawbill Lake and, most often, off the Gunflint Trail, especially after the Kerseys built their home on Lake Superior near Grand Marais (a great place to stay before and after going out). We don't have a favorite place to canoe to; if we did, we'd go there every year. But we like places with big campsites, big rocks, open views and access for interesting day trips. Alpine Lake was

a real favorite until the fire that devastated the area, and we like going out in the Seagull Lake vicinity because we've gotten to know Debbie Mark, who runs Seagull Outfitters and is always willing to keep us informed about conditions in that area.

The best parts of doing an annual canoe trip? Of course, there's getting away from the responsibilities and worries of everyday life, having no agenda to keep and reveling in the fact that we can still do it, but there is more.

We love the peacefulness, serenity and beauty of the north woods, listening to the loons and the wind sighing through the pines; swimming in the cold, clear lakes; and cooking meals over fires that we built ourselves. It's fun to wake up each morning not knowing exactly what will happen during the rest of the day. It helps you realize how much of life we have no control over and how much we depend on each other. We have a real camaraderie and know that we will support each other, not just on the trips, but also through the joys and hard parts of the rest of our lives.

The worst parts of the trip are just what you would imagine: mosquitoes, black flies, rain and high winds. (And I personally am not a fan of the latrines, though they are better than no latrine.) Just looking at the good and the bad, the good certainly far outweighs the bad.

As in all long-term relationships, there are stories that keep getting passed on about what happened in

earlier years. There's the one about the bear that came into camp and would not be deterred from eating all the food (even though it was chased away a couple of times, the pack was hung in the tree, and pots and pans were banged while the campers sat in a canoe watching the bear eat.) There have been several trips when we came in early because of rainstorms. My second trip was just weeks after the 1999 blowdown, a derecho that destroyed 25 million trees in the BWCA alone and killed one person and injured 70 who were camping in the area. We were awed by the huge fallen trees that made portaging more than difficult and some campsites unusable, and we were amazed that more people were not killed.

More than once there have been fires raging as we camped in nearby areas. We have seen helicopters carrying water from lakes around us to try to douse a fire and have sometimes run into more than the usual number of people looking for campsites because their original plans had to change. One morning we awoke to smoke that looked like thick fog on the lake, and sometimes we have talked to firefighters who were informing campers where fire would be a problem.

The stories will keep coming because we plan to keep going as long as we are able. The trips may be less strenuous than they used to be, but we are still there. We are still there.

Michelle Christianson is a piano teacher, musician and longtime contributor to the Park Bugle.

Thoughts on Ferguson, Mo.

By Beth Mercer-Taylor

If you are a white person saddened and disturbed by the death of an unarmed black teen in Missouri, and the aftermath, I am writing to you.

You may feel helplessness because racial injustice seems the norm in our society. Like me, you may express outrage within your own circles. You might donate, perhaps to school programs, neighborhood efforts or social services in Ferguson.

(If you do, there are some good ideas at this blog: blogs.riverfronttimes.com/dailyrft/2014/08/7_peaceful_ways_to_respond_to_michael_browns_death_ferguson_unrest.php.)

Such responses come from a good place and can benefit people. They are not a solution to structural racism.

Following Twitter, you may have seen hundreds of African-American students at Howard

University in Washington, D.C., with their hands up—#handsupdontshoot. The photo reminds me that what happened in Ferguson could happen in any U.S. community. I am not saying the story would unfold the same way everywhere, but our patterns of injustice and privilege make it possible.

If, like me, you have teen boys who look white, you probably have not had something called "the talk" about how to encounter police and white people in authority to avoid violence. Not preparing my sons to have their actions interpreted as threatening is an unearned privilege. Our white faces automatically open doors in social interactions.

Becoming aware of privilege is a first step toward dismantling racism.

Learning systems of oppression and how we participate in them, consciously or not, is a crucial second step. Howard Zinn's book *A People's*

History of the United States provides a good overview.

Whether you identify as white, as a particular European identity or haven't given race much thought, understanding your own story matters. White people have a racial identity and cultural roots, just like anyone else, but we don't always think about that.

Reading Orlando Patterson's *Freedom* along with other material in a class on racism taught by U.C. Berkeley Professor John A. Powell (formerly of the University of Minnesota) caused me to become uncomfortable identifying as white. Whiteness is a modern social construct, created as a way to separate people. In exploring my own identity story with family members, I discovered my cultural roots in many lands. Racial and ethnic categories changed over generations.

I am motivated to write this because of my time in high school in

Shaker Heights, Ohio, which integrated in the 1960s. An activist and teacher named Marcia Jaffe advised a diverse group of students who wanted change. Thinking I was beyond racism myself, I joined in order to teach younger students to become aware of prejudice and discrimination. Actually, the Student Group on Race Relations (SGORR) provided me with peers who challenged my assumptions, created opportunities for me to understand my role in racism and supported me when I struggled.

We worked with elementary students using a hands-on human and race-relations curriculum, and in the process, we developed more nuanced views about race, school and society.

Now I serve as sustainability education coordinator at the U of M, working with faculty and students from different disciplines and backgrounds and with many theories

of how the world works. I may have earned graduate degrees in public policy and law, but I rely every day on the skills I learned in high school.

Last week, I attended a conference focused on environmental justice and inequities within the U.S. and around the world.

As in high school, I hold advantages of privilege and behave in ways that are probably racist. I could do much more to understand how racism operates in society and in my community, starting with enrolling in the equity and diversity certificate program available at the university.

In responding to Ferguson, let's keep talking about privilege and our roles in dismantling racism.

Beth Mercer-Taylor serves on the Falcon Heights City Council.

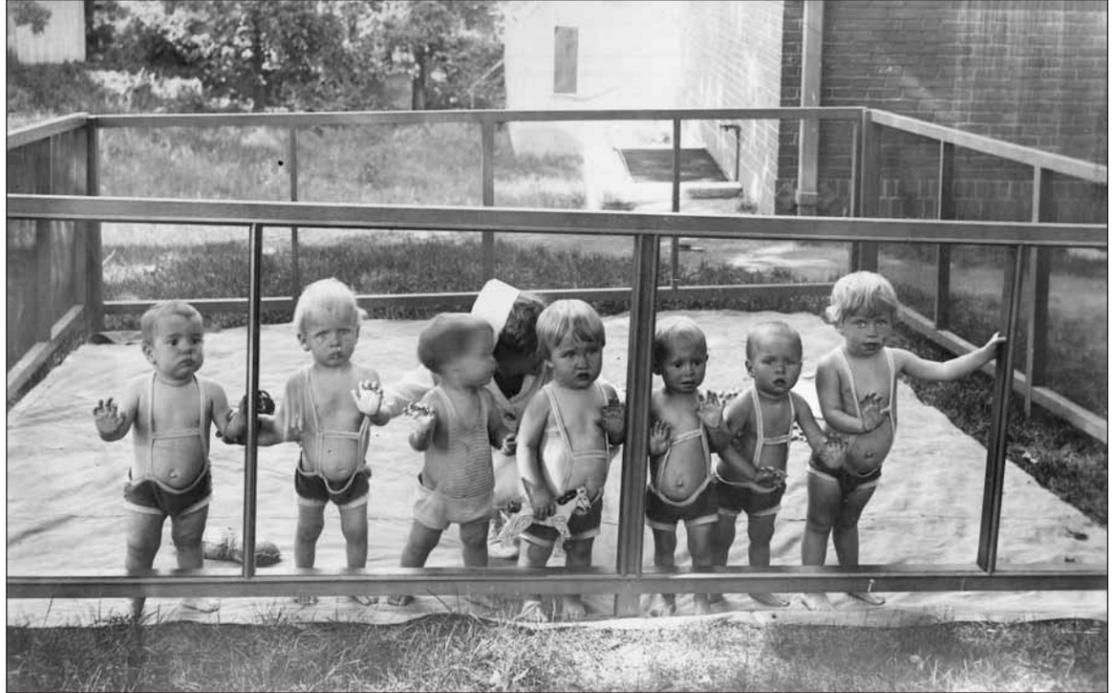
Children's Home from 1

homeless children came from *American parentage* and *the least* from Irish and Scottish nationalities." (Italics in the original.) Was the report alluding perhaps to an unacknowledged pecking order of desirability among available children?

For a homeless child in earlier days, adoption often followed a stay of months or even years in the institutional setting of the orphanage. In 1903 Joseph Elsinger, a St. Paul merchant, donated the land on Commonwealth Avenue for the first Children's Home Society building in St. Anthony Park. Named for the deceased daughter of another early benefactor, Capt. John Martin, the Jean Martin Brown Receiving Home for Children, was renamed St. Anthony Park Home and is still in use as a skilled nursing facility for adults. The original plan was to use the new facility as temporary way station en route to a permanent home for the children. With that end in mind, only children considered adoptable were accepted at the home, but even so "the period of detention [was frequently] somewhat extended," according to a 1907 report.

The society closed its nurseries in 1948, after social workers determined that family-centered foster care placement was better suited to early childhood development than an institutional setting. A few years later, in the 1950s, the Children's Home Society began its first international adoptions with the Baby from Abroad program. The earliest international adoptees came primarily from post-war Germany, but by the late 1960s, the society had begun its Korean adoption program, which soon came to be the largest such program in the United States.

The modern era of open adoptions wouldn't arrive for many decades, but early placements of Children's Home Society were not without occasional drama. A newspaper article from 1900 recounts the "remarkable romance of Little Elsie Ries." Taken from her parents when her mother was sent to the workhouse just after her birth, Little Elsie was adopted by a "well-to-do family in Chicago." A year later her rehabilitated birth mother convinced a sympathetic judge to order the reunion of the family. Children's Home Director E.P. Savage was dispatched to Chicago to



Children in a playpen outside the Receiving Home in an undated photo from probably the 1920s or 1930s. Photos courtesy of the Children's Home Society.

bring Elsie back. There he learned to his astonishment "that the woman who adopted [Elsie] passed [her] off on her husband as her own." Furthermore, the Chicago man refused to give the baby up, declaring "that he had become attached to her" and that "he would shoot anyone" attempting to take her away.

And there the story ends, the adoptive father defiant and the birth mother in St. Paul "weeping and . . . forever separated from her child." No further mention of Elsie or either set of her parents can be found.

Of course, most early adoption accounts didn't strike such a tragic note. Far more typical were letters like the one from the May 1904 issue of the Society's publication, *The Minnesota Children's Home Finder*, in which "Mrs. M.," an adoptive

mother, reported that her son is a "nice, strong, healthy boy, besides being so truthful and industrious . . . he is good at anything, whether at chopping wood or eating mince pie."

Adoption procedures have changed since the era of Little Elsie and the unnamed young fan of mince pie. What remains is what Oberdorfer calls "the goal to strive for . . . all kids to be cared for in a family setting. I would love to say that there wouldn't be a need for adoption [by the time the Children's Home Society celebrates its 200th birthday in 2089]," she says, "but I don't see that being eliminated."

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



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Instructor: Michael Chan, Assistant Professor of Old Testament
7-9 p.m. (Webcast available)

Luther's Small Catechism for Today

Instructors: Fred Gaiser, Professor Emeritus of Old Testament; Mary Jane Haemig, Professor of Church History; Dirk Lange, Associate Professor of Worship; Alvin Luedke, Professor of Rural Ministry; Steven Paulson, Professor of Systematic Theology; Walter Sundberg, Professor Emeritus of Church History
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As the baby boom ages

Falcon Heights is a good case study on how a community is affected by an older demographic

This article is part of the occasional Who Are We? series in which writer Judy Woodward examines changes that have taken place in the Bugle's communities from the 1980 U.S. Census to the present.

By Judy Woodward

What's going to happen to the baby boom generation now that they are beginning to reach their senior years?

Thanks to their numbers, they've exerted an outsize influence on society ever since they were bursting the seams of their grade schools back in the '50s, '60s and early '70s. Are they still going to be reshaping the demographic landscape in their seventh and eighth decades?

One place to look for some answers is the northeast section of Falcon Heights, known officially as Ramsey County Census Tract 419. Census figures tell us that in 1970, the median age in Falcon Heights was just 26, reflecting the many families with children living in the city. By the time of the Census's 2012 American Community Survey estimates, the median age for Tract 419 had risen to 43.3, with women reflecting an even higher median age at 47.4.

In 1980, baby boomers—those born between 1946 and 1964—made up about 45 percent of the population in Falcon Heights. By 2012, baby boomers still made up nearly 40 percent of the residents of Tract 419. The difference is that the boomers are several decades older, changing the area from a neighborhood overflowing with youth to its opposite.

'Fifty years ago the area was teaming with children'

When it comes to personalizing the baby boom, it would be hard to find a more representative couple than Paul and Kathy Ciernia. In their middle-60s now, the couple have lived in the same Falcon Heights house for 40 years.

In that respect, they're like a lot of their neighbors.

The Ciernias arrived in Falcon Heights just at the beginning of Paul's 26-year career with a local computer manufacturer. They were among the many young couples who moved to the comfortable inner-ring suburban neighborhood of postwar ramblers. They raised a family, made some improvements to their house and are facing their senior years with equanimity. They remain active, energetic and involved in their community and devoted to their adult children and their grandchild, who live nearby.

When Deb Jones, zoning and planning director for Falcon Heights, talks about changes created by the aging of the boomers, she isn't talking about the Ciernias individually, but she might as well be.

"In Falcon Heights, we're not seeing housing stock turn over when children grow up," she says. "People

stay in their homes. Fifty years ago the area was teaming with children," but in more recent years, "We've seen changes in age composition, and household size has decreased."

Jones says that, thanks in part to boomers with paid-off mortgages and stable lives, Falcon Heights survived the Great Recession in good shape.



"We haven't seen housing values decline. Our housing stock is good quality, but small," she says. "We're close enough in [to the metro center] to be a desirable place to live, but there's no pressure to add housing density."

Without many cafés and boutiques—what Jones calls the "walkable amenities"—Falcon Heights is likely to escape gentrification pressures. "We aren't prestigious enough to attract tear-downs," she notes wryly.

Calling Falcon Heights "an island of placidity" and "a comfortable place without a lot of change," Jones notes that most changes produced by the aging of the baby boom have been small and incremental. There's less demand for a recreational ice-skating rink at the city park and more interest in community garden plots. The Recreation Department still maintains "outreach to youth and families" but it's added yoga for older adults. Extension classes for older adults offered by the University of Minnesota through the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute have found a home at City Hall.

"The classes are very well attended," says Jones, as is the free income tax help offered to senior citizens by AARP.

In fact, one of the biggest changes that Jones has noticed is how people communicate with City Hall. When Jones started working there, "The phones rang all day. Now people email us. The boomers are on the electronic side of the divide. Phone calls get fewer and fewer ... residents are passionately engaged but in electronic space."

Often people want to communicate with City Hall about a building permit. Although Falcon Heights is a "fully developed community," according to Jones, she handles the permitting process for improvements.

"People are not expanding their houses, but they are remodeling the

interior. Maybe they reduce four little bedrooms to two luxury ones. Or they get a new kitchen or add a bath. But they're not expanding the footprint of the house."

The Ciernias, for example, enlarged a closet and remodeled a bathroom to create a walk-in shower with grab bars. "When we did the remodeling," says Kathy, "I always thought down the line. We have a really livable place."

Although the Ciernias are just as apt to hop on their bicycles for recreation, they do cite access to public transportation as a neighborhood plus. "Our house is close to bus service on Snelling Avenue. That's a nice thing," says Paul.

Jones agrees, noting that public transportation in their area has improved with the recent addition of express buses on Snelling Avenue that connect Falcon Heights to the new Green Line light rail on University Avenue in St. Paul.

The Ciernias' children are now grown, and one big difference in their immediate neighborhood is the decline in the numbers of school-age children in the last 40 years. "Our first child was born in 1976," Paul says. "There were lots more kids around then. Everyone on the block had kids."

But that number was not to last.

Mobile society makes it hard to predict school district needs

According Jan Vanderwall, semi-retired technology coordinator of Roseville Area Schools and a boomer himself, the number of young children in the district dropped so precipitously in the 1980s that the Ciernias' local school, Falcon Heights Elementary, was briefly closed.

Vanderwall explains that the further adventures of Falcon Heights Elementary School are a good illustration of the pitfalls of demographic prediction. Thirty years ago, he recalls, "We used to make enrollment projections based on the birth rates five years earlier. I was accurate to within around 10 kids [out of 500] in predicting the right number of kindergartners."

Now we live in an increasingly mobile society, says Vanderwall, "and those birth rate numbers have become meaningless as predictors."

Falcon Heights Elementary has long since reopened and enrollment has stabilized, he explains, but fewer students come from the Ciernias' neighborhood. An influx of Somali immigrants plus other residents of the new apartment complex at Larpenteur and Snelling avenues, as well as cross-border enrollment from St. Paul, account for many of the new students.

What hasn't altered over the years, says Vanderwall, is Falcon Heights' financial support for its school. "The district has never lost a

Baby boom to 16



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St. Anthony Park Area Seniors (SAPAS) invites you to a Community Meeting September 16, 2014!

SAPAS, in collaboration with Wilder Research, has recently completed a series of focus groups with older residents of the St. Anthony Park area to learn about their preferences, aspirations and service needs now and in the future. Focus group participants from St. Anthony Park, Lauderdale and Falcon Heights have spoken. Please join us to continue the discussion and hear what we have discovered so far.

- Location:** Luther Seminary
Olson Campus Center
(main floor, chapel)
1490 Fulham Street
(corner of Hendon Ave. & Fulham St.)
- Date:** Sept. 16, 2014
- Time:** 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
- What:** Learn the results of focus group conversations and give feedback via Wilder's electronic audience polling system.
- Who is invited:** People interested in the well-being of the elders of our community.
- Refreshments:** Coffee and water available. The Seminary's cafeteria will be open until 6:30 p.m. for food purchases.
- Sponsors:** SAPAS and Wilder Research.



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Voting for community foundation's grant challenge ends Aug. 31

You have just days left to vote for one of three proposals in the Saint Anthony Park Community Foundation's 15th Anniversary Grant Challenge. Voting ends on Sunday, Aug. 31.

To celebrate 15 years of serving the community, the foundation announced the competition in May as a way to encourage fresh ideas for neighborhood initiatives. The foundation will grant \$5,000 per year for three years to the winner. The top three entries in the contest include:

- *Shakespeare in the Park*: An annual outdoor community theater that will provide performing art opportunities for all ages at a walking- and bike-friendly location.

The project would be guided by Sam Bardwell, a Guthrie-trained actor, director and Shakespeare expert.

- *Transition Town All St. Anthony Park*: This group has already started working on community-owned solar, local food production and preservation, and more. The grant would support broader community participation and communication through social media, internet and print for this group of neighbors working to make the community more resilient as it deals with challenges associated with global climate change. The grant would help with the creation of a community road map toward energy conservation that would also increase economic and infrastructure

resilience, and enable the community to work and celebrate together across generations.

- *Mid-Continent Oceanographic Institute (formerly Rock Star Supply Co.)*: a nonprofit group at Raymond and University avenue that offers tutoring, writing development and homework help to students ages 6-18 from low-income households.

Vote at sapfoundation.org. Click on "Vote Now. Click here."

One vote per resident of District 12 is allowed.

The competition winner will be announced at the foundation's 15th Anniversary Party on Friday, Sept. 19, 7-10 p.m. at the Urban Growler Brewery & Tap Room, 2325 Endicott St. See the story below.

15 years of giving

The Saint Anthony Park Community Foundation invites the community to celebrate the foundation's 15th anniversary on Friday, Sept. 19, 7-10 p.m. at Urban Growler Brewing Co., 2325 Endicott St.

The event will feature music, a trivia contest with prizes and a short program at 8 p.m. to thank the community for helping the foundation achieve \$1 million in pledges to its Forever Fund. This endowment fund has provided more than \$400,000 in grants to community organizations supporting education, arts, seniors, health, environmental and economic development programs.

The event is free but participants pay for their own food and beverages.

Music will be provided by local favorites, Sweet Rhubarb, starting at 7 p.m., with headliners, Field Trip, featuring former neighbor, Lucy Michelle, taking the stage from 9-10 p.m. Michelle gained national recognition over the past few years with the Velvet Lappelles, who form the foundation of the more recent Field Trip ensemble. Sweet Rhubarb, consisting of neighbors Ann Fate, Burna Krugler and Priscilla Thomas, has been playing a mix of bluegrass, pop, country and folk around the region for the past several years.

Swarm from 3

sucked the bees out with a special vacuum and cut out the comb, keeping an eye out all the while for the queen.

So the July save at my home was relatively easy. As soon as the swarm in our yard finished entering the bee box, Meyer nonchalantly tucked a piece of screen into the rectangular

opening (to let in air) and neatly stowed the now-covered super in his car's trunk. While to us it was a wonder, he made it all seem quite ordinary.

D.J. Alexander is a freelance writer who lives in Falcon Heights.



Joe Meyer of Four Seasons Apiaries shakes bees into the super. Photos by D.J. Alexander

 **The Birdman of Lauderdale**
by Clay Christensen

The many benefits of bird feeding

I really enjoy watching birds. When I began watching birds about 25 years ago, I would walk the three or four blocks to Walsh Lake on the northeast border of Lauderdale and the Midland Hills Golf Course. I'd go early on a Saturday morning, sit down under a big cottonwood tree and watch to see what would show up.

It was there that I learned to identify eastern kingbirds. A pair had a nest on a limb that reached out over the lake. They were feisty, chasing away any bird that came too close. I could see why they were called kingbirds.

And there I learned to watch pied-billed grebes and to keep watching them. They're a small, duck-like bird when seen at a distance, but keep watching. They can adjust their buoyancy so that they float with just their head sticking out of the water. And sometimes, after diving for food, they'll come up under some pond weeds and peer out from under their impromptu disguise.

In my life, I've been on many field trips around Minnesota and to the East and West Coasts, as well as some expeditions to far-off places like Nova Scotia, Costa Rica, the Amazon and Ecuador. Those trips built up my life list, and it was fun to be in a totally different habitat seeing birds we'd never see here in the upper Midwest.

But I began to feel like I was just a stenographer, writing down what the trip leader called out and not taking the time to try to identify the birds myself. In fact, if I'd been challenged to do the identification myself, my list would have been dramatically shorter. There wasn't any time to really observe the bird for more than a few moments at a time.

I haven't traveled after birds for about 10 years now. And I'm OK with that.

What I have done is changed how I look at birds. Rather than just ticking them off my list, I'm learning

to pay attention to the birds I do see.

The other morning I saw three newly fledged chipping sparrows sitting on the front sidewalk. I walked toward them to get the newspaper, and they looked at each other as if to say, "What's this big thing coming? Mom never told us about this." And they took off.

The special thing about seeing three young chipping sparrows is that it means the parents were able to get three of their eggs to hatch and fledge—no small task, it turns out.

Chipping sparrows are a favorite host parent for brown-headed cowbirds. The female cowbird lays its egg in the chipping sparrow's nest and when the egg hatches, the chipping sparrow parents spend all their time stuffing food into that big cowbird chick.

So these three chippers made it up and out of the nest. Hooray for success!

We're fortunate that our kitchen is in the front of our house. I can sit at the table with my morning coffee and the paper and look out at the bird activity at the feeders in the front yard. (It also helps that I'm retired.)

That's a great way to get to know birds. Put up some feeders and add a bird bath if you can. You'll get to recognize "frequent fliers," birds that favor a certain feeder.

You can experiment with feeder types, feeder placement and seed choices to see what works for the birds in your neighborhood. The proprietor of your wild bird store will be very willing to offer suggestions.

Over the past two summers, we've had great attention at our grape jelly feeder. We've seen more orioles than we've ever had before. And, beyond feeding those returning migrants in the spring, we've watched as they bring their youngsters to the grape jelly later in the summer. That means that somewhere nearby, a pair of orioles (or more) have successfully built that hanging basket nest and raised a couple of kids.

Another success.

Feeding birds can benefit more than just the birds. In June, I gave a talk on neighborhood birds at the Woman's Club of Minneapolis. Afterwards, as I was signing copies of my book, a woman asked me to dedicate it to her husband. She said, "Write: 'To Steve, who feeds the birds.'"

"He's out there every morning, filling up all the feeders," she said. "Every morning ... since the dog died."

Feeding the birds had offered some solace to him after he lost his morning ritual of walking his dog.

I wrote out the dedication, autographed it and handed the book to her.

She leaned toward me and said softly, "We're going to get another dog."

Feeding the birds might bring you unexpected benefits as well.

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

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RAYMOND-UNIVERSITY:

The business area surrounding the intersection at Raymond and University avenues whispers of old-time small-town Main Street and modern urban community in the same breathe. Creative and industrial commerce thrive side-by-side, setting the backdrop to a vibrant and energized residential community.

The ebb and flow of the Raymond-University district over the past half-century reflects the fluctuations of populations and eras come and gone. Today, it's hard to miss the glint of a new horizon. The storefronts are filled with new creative and locally owned businesses that are joining familiar institutions to create an eclectic vibe that is starting to turn heads and draw crowds from across the Twin Cities.

The steadily increasing stream of new faces—young and old—dotting the streetscape appears to be ushering in a new age for south St. Anthony Park. The arrival of the Green Line, combined with a cluster of new residential and commercial developments—not to mention a growing number of

By **Kyle Mianulli**

microbreweries—could be signaling the start of a new golden era.

Newfound harmony

The last “golden era” for St. Anthony Park roughly took place between 1950 and 1970, as David Lanegran explains in his book *St. Anthony Park: Portrait of a Community*. With World War II over, household incomes were on the rise and business and industry were booming.

The population of north St. Anthony Park was on a steady incline, but expanding industrial operations taking advantage of the central location and ample shipping routes radiating from the area began to take over residential land in the south. While the population of north St. Anthony Park grew by 26 percent in the two decades

Where industry, creativity and an old-time small-town vibe meld



“This place is filled with creative businesses,” says Neal Kielar of MidModMen+Friends. Photo by Kyle Mianulli

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following the war, the population to the south declined by 30 percent.

The city-sponsored expansion of land zoned for industrial use compacted concerns over the loss of residential land that had already resulted from freeway construction.

Worried their cozy residential community was in jeopardy, neighbors banded together to fight the expansion. They went as far as creating a document called “Battle Plan for Survival: Let’s Beat the Industrial Bulldozer (The Neighborhood Strangler).” In it, the South St. Anthony Project Area Committee outlined 16 points, including calling for the Housing and Redevelopment Authority to convert industrial land into housing.

The group was largely unsuccessful in their demands, and the tension eventually began to subside. Today, industry, residential and commercial sectors of south St. Anthony Park seem to have found a peaceful harmony.

Instead of viewing industry as a threat, many now see it as a

welcomed reminder of the area’s heritage that brings both charm and valuable jobs to the area.

“[South St. Anthony Park] is unique in that we are able to co-exist with industrial uses right next to residential,” said Ellen Waters, who lives in south St. Anthony Park and served on the District 12 Community Council for nearly 10 years. She also ran the now-defunct St. Anthony Park Business Council from 1994 to 1996.

“We didn’t want to get rid of industry, but to balance it and residential, and I think we have succeeded,” she said. “I don’t want our community to be solely a place people live—it should be a place people live—it should be a living as well.”

Shannon Forney, who is preparing to open a new café, **WORKHORSE COFFEE BAR**, in the old Edge coffee shop space, says she appreciates the industrial character of the neighborhood and the fact that it has historically been a place characterized by work and industry. She sees a renewed appreciation of industry and manufacturing broadly.

“I think there is a real

renaissance of the worker, where there’s a celebration of that industry and manufacturing,” she says.

No longer solely identified by its industrial past, a growing number of vibrant small businesses are joining hundreds of new housing units at residential developments like the Carleton Artist Lofts, the Lyric and C&E Apartments to create a bustling and unique urban community.

New businesses add to area’s growing identity

Just within the last two years more than a half dozen new businesses opened doors at Raymond and University. Every one of them is independent, locally owned and has some sort of creative flavor. Many are also lending to the emergence of a vintage and retro shopping destination as well.

The two most recent arrivals on the block are Junk Love at 777 Raymond Ave. and Skon Chiropractic at 856 Raymond Ave. Both opened within the last two months.

Junk Love is adding to the retro vibe of the area with an eclectic offering of salvage and restoration Americana. Combined with other retro shopping outfits like longstanding Succotash, which celebrated its 19th anniversary in the storefront at 781 Raymond Ave. this month, Shag Studio at 799 Raymond Ave. and MidModMen + Friends at 2401 University Ave., the area has already been recognized as a destination for retro treasure hunters.

Throwing in Spinario Design and Classic Retro at Pete's—each less than one LRT stop away from the hub at



Raymond and University—the Star Tribune called the area the “Best hotspot for retro style” in its 2014 Best of MN feature.

“Everyone kind of has their own style,” Malia Schroeder, who owns Junk Love, said of the cluster of vintage shops. “As a hunter of this stuff, when I go somewhere and I see there’s five other places I can stop at, I’m stoked.”

The retro identity includes more than salvage and restoration housewares and furniture. Two new used record shops—Barely Brothers and Agartha—offer a vinyl music shopping experience. And the block’s longest-standing institution, Key’s Café, an area fixture for 40 years, offers an old-timey menu and diner décor.

Owner Barbara Hunn says today, she sees more young people at the diner counter taking the place of industrial workers who would often post up for breakfast and lunch daily in years past.

Today the faces populating the streetscape are a bit younger on the whole, a bit more artsy, and “maybe a little bit of a hipster thing creeping in,” as Spencer Brooks of Barely Brothers Records, notes.



Store owners, from top: Patty George of Salongearge, Dianne Revoir and Jerry Meusberger of Bargain Upholstery (photos by Kristal Leebrick), Paul Allbright of Succotash and Malia Schroeder of Junk Love (photos by Kyle Mianulli).

creative businesses,” said Neal Kielar, who owns MidModMen with his partner, John Mehus. Apart from the immense creative energy it takes to curate a successful midcentury retro furniture store, they also host the work of two local artists in their store.

Creativity might not be the first thought to come to mind when thinking of a chiropractor, but the newly opened Skon Chiropractic proves otherwise. Owned and operated by husband-and-wife team William and Suzanne Skon, the office doubles as a gallery for Suzanne’s artwork. The space is filled with drawings, paintings and sculptures she created over the last 15 years.

WORKHORSE COFFEE BAR will be the newest business to open in the area later this fall. The women-owned business is moving into 2399 University Ave. with plans to offer performances by local musicians and a place for local artists to display their work. Owners Shannon Forney and Ty Barnett were chosen as one of 69 finalists from more than 800 entries in the St. Paul Knight Arts

Challenge. Their proposal is to curate St. Paul’s tiniest museum in a recessed fire hose cabinet in front of their shop.

Raymond Avenue Gallery, 761 Raymond Ave., is perhaps the most obvious manifestation of creativity in the area with a rotating gallery featuring work from local and regional artists. Creative work continues up Raymond Avenue at Salongearge, 856 Raymond Ave., where Patty George and her team “find inspiration every day in the hair industry, fashion, the arts.” The salon offers hair and beauty services but also hosts a rotating display of art. Two music schools—Chanson Voice and Music Academy and Swift Music, both on the 700 block of Raymond Ave—attract plenty of musicians to the area, as well.

Roundtable Coffee, the Twin Cities’ first coffee-roasting incubator space, probes the artisanal side of the coffee world like few others. And the artistic eye and craftsmanship of Jerry Meusberger and Dianne Revoir at Bargain Upholstery, 797 Raymond Ave., bring a craft-

Raymond-University to 12

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Creativity abounds

Retro shopping is only part of the area’s emerging identity.

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"It's small town, it's Mayberry, it's gossip, it's house business," says Paul Allbright of Succotash (center) when describing life as a store owner on Raymond Avenue. *Photo by Kyle Mianulli*

Raymond-University from 11

oriented creative slant to the block. Of course, one would be remiss not to mention the culinary creativity drawing crowds of customers at Foxy Falafel.

Creative entrepreneurship radiates far into the neighborhood, and interest in the area from other creative

enterprises seems to be growing.

"We've noticed we are fielding more and more inquiries from professional but creative entrepreneurs and arts organizations," said Brad Johnson, who owns three of the storefronts on the 700 block of Raymond.

"The branding work that neighborhood groups like [the Creative Enterprise Zone, a District 12 task force working to bring more creative businesses to the neighborhood] have been doing lately seems definitely to have had an effect."

Small-town charm, collaborative spirit

Much of the charm business owners and residents enjoy in the Raymond-University area stems from a feeling that things wouldn't look or feel much different a half decade earlier. The fact that there is hardly a chain store or national retailer in sight certainly lends to that sentiment.

"There's something about the neighborhood—it's got an authentic feel. We're in a big city that has a reasonable amount of uniformity to it, and there is something about [this place] that still has that authentic feel to it, . . . there's no pretense here," Kielear said.

MidModMen started as a pop-up shop through the Starling Project put on by the St. Anthony Park Community Council in 2012. Surprised by both their success and the quaint, tightness of the community, Kielear and Mehus decided to stick around.

They didn't expect the robust neighborhood market they found here, Kielear said. Many St. Anthony Park neighbors are regulars in their store, both buying their products and offering up vintage finds of their own for restoration and resale.

"There are people who live here that also start to create the threads of the area—bridging the residents and the businesses. I like that," Kielear said.

The way businesses operate

on the block seems to reflect the "main street" ethos, as well. Shop owners can often be found out on the sidewalk exchanging pleasantries, greeting passersby and keeping the pulse of the block.

"It's small town, it's Mayberry, it's gossip, it's house business," said Paul Allbright, who owns Succotash with his wife, Noreen.

There is a tight-knit community developing amongst the shop owners based on a mutual understanding that success for one can be easily translated into success for all.

Rather than seeing each other as competitors, many of the business owners recognize value in pooling their efforts. It's not uncommon to see promotional material for a shop around the corner laid out on the counter.

"When people communicate and talk and share ideas it just makes collectively everything happier and more desirable to travel to," Schroeder said.

And travel they will. Evidence of the promised increase in pedestrian traffic accompanying the new Green Line is mostly anecdotal at this point, but many shop owners in the area say they are already seeing an effect.

Kielear said he recently had a customer in his shop who took public transit all the way from St. Cloud to ride the Green Line from start to finish.

"We've had more people coming and shopping. I've got to up my packaging to get people to be able to carry it on the train," he said.

Whether the Green Line tourism factor will persist remains to be seen, but for the time being, the future looks promising for the shops at Raymond and University Avenues.

"There's definitely an upward trend in this area, no doubt there," Albright says.

Kyle Mianulli is a freelance writer who lives and shops in the Raymond-University area.

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Business News

Skon Chiropractic opens on Raymond in St. Anthony Park

By Roger Bergerson

Dr. Bill Skon was never what you'd call a long-distance commuter.

Like his father and uncle before him, he maintained a chiropractic practice in the Snelling Hamline neighborhood of St. Paul, but in recent years he dreamed of working closer to his St. Anthony Park home.

"Now I'm a five-minute bike ride away," said Skon.

The Associated Bank building at Snelling and Selby avenues where he rented space has been torn down to make way for a Whole Foods store and apartments, so Skon Chiropractic moved to 856 Raymond Ave., south of Hampden Park.

The landscape architect who previously occupied the quarters had displayed art, which made the space especially appealing to Skon and his wife, Suzanne. In addition to being the office manager, Suzanne Skon is an artist herself.

"We tried to retain the gallery feeling by having Suzanne's work throughout," Bill Skon said, "which I think makes it nice for both us and our patients. It seems appropriate since the area is regarded as a creative



Suzanne and Bill Skon

zone."

Skon Chiropractic can help with injuries or pain arising from a variety of conditions.

In addition, Skon said, most people can benefit from having a chiropractic adjustment every so often. He takes a holistic approach, emphasizing the importance of exercise and nutrition to overall

health and well-being.

"We're pretty low key," he added. "We meet people where they're at, giving them the care they need, whether that's for relief of their symptoms or to help maintain a healthy lifestyle."

To learn more about Skon Chiropractic, go to www.skonchiro.com.

New deli menu, outdoor dining on new co-op manager's to-do list

By Kristal Leebrick

Hampden Park Co-op's new general manager, Greg Junge, wants to capitalize on the opening of the Green Line on University Avenue and the two new breweries—Urban Growler and Bang—just blocks away on Endicott Street by expanding the 40-year-old food cooperative's offerings.

Last week, the co-op added an outdoor dining area, and Junge plans to add more items to the deli menu to include a line of evening desserts that may attract some Urban Growler after-dinner traffic to the co-op, which is located at the corner of Hampden and Raymond avenues.

More community outreach (which includes letting the public know they can shop to live music on Wednesdays, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.), new menu items and fresh paint are on the list for Junge, who started his position in July, after a six-month search by the co-op's board of directors. Junge (pronounced "young") brings 15 years of management experience, working for various food service and food retail organizations such as Walmart and Sodexo and startup Northeast Minneapolis restaurant SNAP!



Greg Junge joined Hampden Park Co-op in July. Photo by Kristal Leebrick

Hampden Park Co-op is a member-owned full-line grocery store with more than 3,500 members. Junge wants to see the membership increase.

It's a big part of the community, and the store did a great job of sticking to its mission during the recent economic recession, Junge says. That mission is to serve its member-owners and the community by promoting wholesome, healthful and ecologically sound food consumption with the involvement of its members in food selection and the operation of the co-op. Many of the co-op's members volunteer in the

store in exchange for discounts on their groceries.

Prior to joining the co-op, Junge was the assistant store manager of the grocery section at the Cottage Grove Walmart, which has a full line of natural and organic foods. He previously was general manager for Sodexo at General Mills, where he created lunchtime offerings with rotating menus prepared by high-profile local chefs. His background also includes serving as the general manager of SNAP!, a pizza and ice cream restaurant in Northeast Minneapolis that was open for several years.

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Business News continued

Sparky's Grill opens at Como Golf Course

By Alex Lodner

When the new Sparky's Grill at the Como Golf Course Club House opened in June, the event went virtually unnoticed. A green sign featuring the beloved Como Zoo sea lion popped up at 1431 N. Lexington Parkway, to alert passerbys to the new establishment, but for a while only those who regularly golfed at the course discovered that what used to be a simple concession stand is now a sunny restaurant with one of the best views in the city.

Site manager Don Siggelkow hopes the news gets out and Sparky's becomes a neighborhood hangout. "We want golfers and non-golfers alike to feel welcome here and bring their families to enjoy our food and these amazing vistas," Siggelkow said. "This is the best location in town."

Looking out the massive windows onto the lush grounds of the golf course, one might agree. The rounded veranda overlooks ponds,

weeping willows and a carpet of green punctuated by tiny flags. Golfers stroll past, and fountains gently dance beneath.

While the gorgeous setting was always there, it wasn't until Prom Catering took over managing the property earlier this spring that the modest concession stand morphed into a full grill, offering items such as burgers, Mahi Mahi tacos and pizzas. "Upgrading the food service was our main priority," Siggelkow said.

The City of St. Paul still owns the course, but Prom Catering, an Oakdale-based event-management and food-services company, was hired in January to manage both the Como and Phalen golf courses in an attempt to make the courses profitable.

"The golf course industry is declining," Siggelkow said. "We needed to find a way to generate more income and make Como Golf Course a destination for people

around the metro. We really want to keep this wonderful golf course going."

"People think it's a private facility just for golfers and skiers, but it's for everyone," he continued. "Think of it as a public park, with a great restaurant."

In order for the restaurant to be as much of an attraction as the course, Sparky's Grill has Caesar salads, veggie burgers, BLTs, mac and cheese, and chicken wings. Sparky's also has a full-service bar with tap beers, wine and liquor. It also offers coffee and breakfast sandwiches for early birds getting in a few holes or a ski run before work.

The upper level of the clubhouse, complete with a wood-burning fireplace, is available for special events such as wedding rehearsal dinners or business meetings. Events can be catered by the grill downstairs or by Prom Catering out of its Oakdale facility, which offers a larger menu.

Siggelkow said the menu will continue to expand, with comfort food dishes added in the winter for skiers and sledgers—and the views



The Como Golf Course Club House has a new restaurant but still boasts the same view of the ponds, weeping willows and green grass from the clubhouse deck. Photo by Jessica Hilmanowski

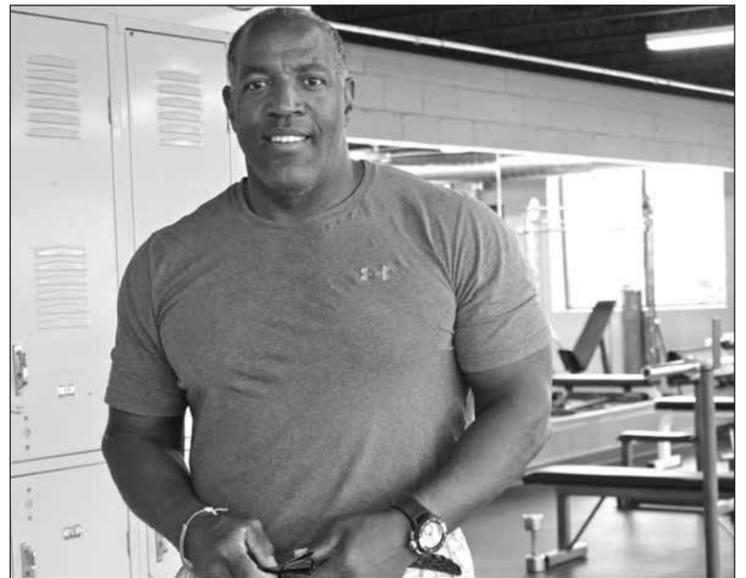
through the clubhouse windows are just as beautiful in the snowy months.

Alex Lodner is a freelance writer who lives in the Como Park neighborhood.

JT's Fitness offers one-on-one personal training on Como Ave.

Jim Thomas, proprietor of JT's Fitness at 1810 Como Ave., likes to emphasize the word "personal" when he refers to the training he provides at his new gym across from the Minnesota State Fair. A longtime athlete and personal trainer since 1995, he says he loves what he does: help people become stronger, fitter and motivated. He offers one-on-one personal training and group sessions for two or more people.

After more than two decades at Fitness Express in the Commodore Hotel on Western Avenue in downtown St. Paul and just a year on Selby Avenue, Thomas moved his business to Como Avenue this summer. He brought all of his longtime clients with him, he says, and that includes doctors, lawyers, school superintendents and people who want to lose weight, get in shape or even gain the strength to climb mountains.



Jim Thomas of J.T.'s Fitness. Photo by Kristal Leebrick

A native of Jackson, Miss., Thomas came to the Twin Cities in 1980 to follow a high school football coach who had accepted a job at

Inver Hills Community College.

His talent on the field took him to Utah State University, where he majored in sales and marketing and was named a First Team All-American football player. He went on to play with the Houston Oilers as an outside linebacker and then spent time as a professional wrestler with both the American Wrestling Association (AWA) and the World Wrestling Federation (WWF).

Thomas describes himself as "a personable guy," and you can learn more about his business at www.jts-fitness.com. — Kristal Leebrick

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Neighbors

St. Michael's Lutheran Church in Roseville has a new pastor

By Janet Lunder Hanafin

If there is a typical Lutheran pastor, the Rev. Ali Ferin isn't there yet. But, as the new associate pastor of St. Michael's Lutheran Church in Roseville, she is on her way. Pastor Ali, as she is known, is a 2014 graduate of Luther Seminary, lucky beyond her wildest dreams to have found a job in her calling in a metro area that has an abundance of pastors.

A Twin Cities girl who grew up in Shoreview and graduated from Mounds View High School, Ferin said she was a "church nerd" member of Incarnation Lutheran Church in Shoreview who never missed a confirmation class, sang in all the choirs, taught Sunday school and met her husband when they both worked at a Lutheran Bible camp for a summer. Even as a youngster she wanted to work in the church, so she took a tour of Luther Seminary while still in high school. Her one rebellious act was attending Iowa State University with her sweetheart rather than going to one of the Lutheran colleges.

Ferin's interest in social, grassroots movements and communities, particularly indigenous peoples, got its start when she was 16 and spent part of a summer on a church mission trip to Tanzania.

"I left so much of my heart there," she said. "I thought theologically for the first time in my life why God moves the way God



The Rev. Ali Ferin

moves, and why the world works the way it works. I learned so much seeing poverty, and also seeing abundance, seeing joy happen despite fear and illness."

Ferin completed her undergraduate degree in philosophy with a minor in international relations in three years, married her husband, Ben, and "pipelined" straight to Luther Seminary, intending to become a youth director.

"As I was taking the classes and starting to be formed as a pastor, I realized that it felt really right," she said. "It was a challenge, but it was everything I had hoped for. Sometimes I wonder what is God doing, but I could never imagine not doing this."

She hoped to find a job in the Twin Cities because her husband is

employed here, but she knew it would be difficult. She admits to being surprised when she was invited to interview for an opening at St. Michael's.

"St. Michael's is a healthy, thriving community, with a history of social action, (which) I care about," she said. "After meeting with Pastor (Roland) Hayes and learning more about St. Michael's, I knew this is what it felt like to be called."

Ferin began her work at St. Michael's the first week in July and has already been initiated into the experience of congregational family camp at Luther Dell in northern Minnesota and Vacation Bible School at the church. She was ordained on July 26.

She and her husband enjoy running and traveling together, and reading is a treasured interest, but time for hobbies is limited, she admitted. Her family lives in the area and she is an adoring aunt to a new nephew.

As she begins her ministry she looks forward to "learning from Roland's wisdom," she said. "It's critical for me as a young pastor to learn some of those skills that only come with experience.

"There's something about congregational ministry that has pulled me in. I really believe in the work of the church," she said. "I really believe in the power of what a congregation can do in a community."

Como grad is triathlon champ

Steven Mantell, a Como Park Senior High School graduate who attends Colorado State University in Fort Collins, won USA Triathlon's national championship for the Olympic distance event on Aug. 9 in Milwaukee.

Mantell, who trains with Every Man Jack and Colorado State University triathlon teams, finished the 1,500-meter swim, 40-kilometer bicycle ride and 10K run in 1 hour, 50 minutes and 59 seconds.

Mantell has earned a spot on a USA amateur team that will represent the United States at competitions throughout the world, including the 2015 International Triathlon Association world championships in Chicago.

Local artists' show 'Close to Home' opens at Augsburg gallery

St. Anthony Park artist Tara Sweeney's show "Close to Home: A Visual Journal" is on display at the Gage Family Art Gallery, Augsburg

College, on the first floor of Oren Gateway Center at the intersection of 22nd Avenue S. and Riverside Avenue in Minneapolis. She describes the show as "an almanac of observations in watercolor and ink paired with original text [that] explores the extraordinary in the ordinary."

A reception for the show will be held Friday, Sept. 5, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Sweeney will give an artist talk and demonstration in the Adeline Johnson Conference Center adjacent to the gallery on Tuesday, Sept. 9, from noon to 2 p.m.

Falcon Heights Fire Department to host open house, chili cook-off

The 2014 Falcon Heights Fire Department open house and chili cook-off will be held on Saturday, Oct. 4, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Attendees can meet local firefighters, tour the garage, sit in fire trucks and check out firefighter gear. Stove and car burns will be demonstrated in the parking lot during the event.

A new addition this year is a chili cook-off. Whether you have an amazing chili recipe to show off or just want to sample, come take part in this new fundraising event. All proceeds benefit the Firefighter Relief Association, and the winning chili will receive a prestigious traveling trophy.

Entry is free. Simply complete the registration form at www.falconheights.org. Click on Public Safety, Fire Department. Cost to attend the all-you-can eat event is \$5 for children 12 and older and adults and \$3 for children under 12.

September events at Northwest Como Recreation Center

Basketball registration will be held Sept. 1-30 for ages 3-14 at Northwest Como Recreation Center, 1515 Hamline Ave. Don't forget to take advantage of the early registration discounts the first five days of September. Registration is taken on

Reimbursed Senior Volunteer Positions

The Senior Companion Program is looking for volunteers (age 55+) to serve by providing friendly in-home visits and transportation to seniors in central and eastern St. Paul. A tax-free stipend, mileage reimbursement, and other benefits offered.

Contact Lisa Beardsley at 651.310.9450 or Lisa.Beardsley@lssmn.org



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Neighbors from 15

first-come, first-serve. Call 651-298-5813 or go to stpaul.gov/parks to register. You can also register at the rec center.

A Super Hero Teen Dance, for ages 11-14, on Sunday, Sept. 14, and a welcome bonfire for families will be held on Friday, Oct. 3.

Fall classes at the center include:

- Funtastic Fridays, ages 7-12
- Minecraft Digital Animation, ages 7-12
- Archery, ages 10-15
- Tae Kwon Do, ages 6 & up
- Artist Workshop, ages 7-13
- Babysitting Training, ages 11 & up
- Halloween Craft Party, ages 2-4
- Glow In the Dark Halloween Art, ages 5-12
- Ballet & Creative Movement, ages 3-5
- Parent & Child Yoga, ages 3-5
- Jazz/Ballet/Hip-Hop, ages 6-10
- Yoga, ages 6-11

- Senior Gamers, age 55 and older

Fall events at Langford Rec Center

Basketball registration will be held Sept. 1-30 for ages 3-14 at Langford Recreation Center, 30 Langford Park. Discounts are offered the first five days of registration. Call 651-298-5813 or go to stpaul.gov/parks to register. You can also register at the rec center.

Fall classes at Langford include:

- Art: 3D, Paint and Clay, ages 3-5
- Arts: Mask Making, ages 7-12
- Cooking, ages 8-14
- Cooking: Holiday Cookies, 8-11
- Soo Bahk Do, ages 6 to adult
- Safe on My Own, ages 7-9
- Fall and Winter Blasts, ages 6-12
- Cooking: Mediterranean, ages 16 and older
- Table Tennis, ages 13-18
- Pilates, adults
- Weekly senior group, ages 55+
- Rec Check: a free after-school program for kids in grades 1-6 who

attend school in St. Paul.

Living with God class begins Sept. 18 at Emmaus Lutheran Church

The Rev. Tom Trapp will offer the course "Living with God" over the next four years (two 10-week sessions per year) to highlight important insights from his 30 years of teaching the Scriptures. The classes will be held at Emmaus Lutheran Church, 1074 Idaho Ave. W.

Co-sponsored by Concordia University and the Minnesota South District, these sessions will be offered at no charge. CEUs will be available.

The first 10-week class will cover the books of Genesis through Deuteronomy and be held on Thursdays, beginning Sept. 18, at either 1-3 p.m. or 6:30-8:30 p.m. Please register in advance by emailing emmaus@q.com or call 651-489-9426. Find out more online at www.emmaus-lutheran-church.org.

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Baby boom from 7

bonding referendum," he notes. The well-educated residents of Falcon Heights with their traditional ties to the University of Minnesota "don't go to the schools as much as when they had kids there, but intellectually they still support them," he said.

The leading-edge boomers like the Ciernias are now in their mid-60s. Statistically, they can expect to live another 15 to 20 years, and thanks to the improvements of modern life and health care, few of them currently feel the need to make use of specific services for seniors.

Of course, that will change.

Janelle Wampler, program coordinator for the Roseville Area Senior Program, which serves Falcon

Heights, says her organization is gearing up for the baby boomers. "Boomers are looking for volunteer opportunities, social and recreational outlets, and the chance to learn new skills."

Jody McCardle is the executive director of the Como Park/Falcon Heights Living at Home/Block Nurse program. Her organization is dedicated to helping seniors stay in their homes as long as possible, and she says her group's biggest challenge is to persuade potential clients to accept assistance.

"When people have troubles in daily life, it's hard to take the first step," she says.

She notes the presence of many boomers in the ranks of volunteers with her organization, and she says their experience may well prepare them for the next steps in their own aging process. She foresees continued interest in fitness, book clubs and "grow your own food" with wheelchair-accessible gardens on the horizon.

Noting that Falcon Heights has one of highest concentration of seniors per capita in the state, McCardle cites "lots of one-floor homes" among the factors that make the city "such a convenient place."

On the big question of whether the boomers will, in fact, be able to stay in their homes, McCardle introduces a note of harsh financial reality. "So many boomers don't have large savings. People may find themselves living together co-operatively or in multigenerational settings." The inevitable frailties of mind and body that come with advancing age will introduce additional complications.

As for the Ciernias, they remain upbeat. "We like being in the area," says Kathy.

"Even though this last winter made us think twice," Paul jokes, "we'll stay here for the foreseeable future."

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

Community Worship Directory

❖ **PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH—ELCA**
 1744 Walnut St. (at Ione), Lauderdale, 651-644-5440
www.peacelauderdale.com
 Sunday worship: 10 a.m.
 Reconciling in Christ Congregation
All are welcome. Come as you are.

❖ **SPIRIT UNITED CHURCH**
 3204 Como Ave. S.E., Minneapolis, 612-378-3602, www.spiritunited.com
 Sundays: 10:30 a.m. Message and Music. Kids With Spirit Sunday School.
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❖ **ST. CECILIA'S CATHOLIC CHURCH**
 2357 Bayless Place. 651-644-4502
 Website: www.stceciliaspn.org
 Handicapped accessible
 Saturday Mass: 5 p.m. at the church
 Sunday Masses: 8:15 a.m. and 10 a.m. at the church

❖ **ST. ANTHONY PARK UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**
 2129 Commonwealth Ave. (corner of Commonwealth and Chelmsford)
 651-646-7173 www.sapucc.org
 9:15 a.m. Christian education for all ages; 10:30 a.m. worship
 Pastor: Victoria Wilgocki
God Is Still Speaking

❖ **ST. ANTHONY PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
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www.sapumc.org, 2200 Hillside Ave. (at Como), 651-646-4859
 Pastor: Melanie Homan
 Sundays: 10 a.m. Worship celebration and Sunday School
 11 a.m. Fellowship and refreshments
 6:30 p.m. Free young adult dinner in parlor
 Mondays: 7 p.m. Community Bible study in parlor
 Vacation Bible School July 15-17 6 p.m.-8 p.m. Free.
 For children 3 (as of July 1) through Grade 5 (completed)

❖ **ST. ANTHONY PARK LUTHERAN CHURCH**
 2323 Como Avenue W. 651-645-0371
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 Pastor Glenn Berg-Moberg and Pastor Jim Weckwerth
 Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11 a.m.
 Sunday School, Adult Forum and Coffee Hour 9:45 a.m.
 Choir School starts Sept. 10 (Babies to Grade 6)
 Wednesday Community Meal starts Sept. 10 5-6:30 p.m. (freewill offering)
 Web, Facebook, & Twitter: SAPLC

❖ **ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**
 The Rev. Blair A. Pogue, Rector www.stmatthewsmn.org
 2136 Carter at Chelmsford. 651-645-3058
 Regular Fall Worship Schedule begins Sunday, September 7.
 Education for all ages begins September 14. All are welcome!
 Sundays 9:15 a.m. Education for all ages
 10:30 a.m. Worship with sermon and communion
 Nursery care provided 9:00 a.m.-11:20 a.m.
 7 p.m. Night Prayer with reflection and communion,
 dinner at 5:30 p.m.
 Wednesdays Noon p.m. Midweek worship in the side chapel, lunch following.

To add your church to the directory, contact Bradley Wolfe at 952-393-6814 or bradley.wolfe@parkbugle.org

SEPTEMBER

Events

Venue information is listed at the end of the calendar. Send your events to calendar@parkbugle.org by Wednesday, Sept. 10, to be included in the October issue.

1 SEPTEMBER

Winter sports registration opens at St. Paul Parks and Recreation. Register early for discounts. Call 651-266-6400 or go to saintpaul.gov/athletics to register.

2 TUESDAY

Baby lapsit storytime, Tuesdays, St. Anthony Park Library, two sessions, 10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

Blood drive at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, 2-7 p.m. Make an appointment at redcrossblood.org and key in the ZIP code 55108, or call Michelle at 651-647-9526

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

3 WEDNESDAY

Adult Basic English Class, Wednesdays, St. Anthony Park Library, 1 p.m.

Conversation Circle, Wednesdays, St. Anthony Park Library, 4 p.m.

St. Anthony Park Book Club, St. Anthony Park Library, 6:30 p.m.

5 FRIDAY

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

8 MONDAY

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

Crochet Like a Pro, four-session adult class meets every Monday in September, St. Anthony Park Library, 6-7 p.m. Call 651-642-0411 to register.

Author William Kent Krueger will read from "Windigo Island," Micawber's Books, 7 p.m.

Joseph A. Amara, of Magus Books & Herbs, will speak on high magick at Spirit United Interfaith Church, 7-9 p.m. The event is sponsored by the Theosophical Society. Free refreshments and parking in lot east of the church. \$10 suggested donation.

9 TUESDAY

Adoptive Parents Group, for parents whose adopted children are now adults, CHLSS, 6-8 p.m.

11 THURSDAY

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

13 SATURDAY

St. Anthony Park neighborhood garage sale, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

15 MONDAY

Community Sing, Olson Student Center, Luther Seminary, 6:30 p.m. Free admission.

17 WEDNESDAY

Minnesota's Waiting Children information session: Learn about adopting children who live in foster care, CHLSS, 6-8 p.m.

18 THURSDAY

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

Farmers Market, Lauderdale City Park, 4-7 p.m. Food from Sassy Spoon Food Truck, 4-8 p.m.

20 SATURDAY

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

Community cleanup, state fairgrounds, 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

23 SATURDAY

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

22 MONDAY

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

Bubble Gum Group, a six-session group for kids ages 8-11 and includes a parents group, begins at CHLSS, 6:30-8 p.m. Register at chsfs.org/supportgroups.

26 FRIDAY

Co-ed Drum Circle: percussion, rhythm and freedom of expression will be explored. All levels of experience are welcomed and encouraged, Women's Drum Center, 6:30 p.m., \$10 at the door, drums provided.

27 SATURDAY

Parent-Toddler Time, a six-session play group for adopted children ages 1-4 and their parents, begins at CHLSS, 9-10:30 a.m. Register at chsfs.org/supportgroups.

My Time, a six-session activity group for kids ages 5-7 and includes a discussion group for parents, begins at CHLSS, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Register at chsfs.org/supportgroups.

28 SUNDAY

Sunday Afternoon Book Club, "To Sing Along the Way," by various female poets, Micawber's Books, 2:30 p.m.

29 MONDAY

Beyond the Bubble, an eight-session group for youth ages 11 and older and includes a parents group, begins at CHLSS, 6:30-8 p.m. Register at chsfs.org/supportgroups.

SENIOR EXERCISE CLASSES

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

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

CHLSS (Children's Home Society & Lutheran Social Service), 1605 Eustis St., 651-646-7771

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

Lauderdale City Park, 1885 Fulham St.

Luther Seminary, 2481 Como Ave., 651-641-3456

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

Spirit United Interfaith Church, 3204 Como Ave. S.E., Minneapolis, 651-235-6645.

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

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



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St. Anthony Park Area Seniors presents: 2014 Senior Cinema Series

"Mud"

Thursday, September 11th, at SAP Library, 1-3 p.m.

Two young boys encounter a fugitive and form a pact to help him evade the vigilantes that are on his trail and to reunite him with his true love. 130 minutes. Starring Matthew McConaughey

St. Anthony Park Library, 2245 Como Ave. 651-642-0411 / www.sppl.org

2200 Hillside Ave. / 651-642-9052 www.SAPASeniors.org

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L I V E S L I V E D

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



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Grace Erickson

Grace Laverne Erickson, 97, died peacefully July 11.

For many years, Grace volunteered to read textbooks for blind college students, read books on the radio for the Minnesota Society for the Blind (now Minneapolis-based Vision Loss Resources) and served for 16 years at the Auxiliary of Doctors Hospital of Sarasota, Fla.

Grace and her husband, Arnold (Arnie), were active charter members of St. Timothy Lutheran Church in Como Park, and later of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Sarasota. After moving to Anoka in 2009, Grace attended Zion Lutheran Church in Anoka. Grace moved to North Ridge Care Center in 2011 after a stroke.

She was preceded in death by her husband; siblings, Gen Thompson, Lois King, Imogene Seashore and Chuck Johnson; and special friend Ken Webster. She is survived by her sons, Doug (Galene), Jack and Kevin (Kim); seven grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and her friends at North Ridge Care Center where, after supper each night, Grace would reach out to tap on their shoulders, nod her head and encouragingly say, "I'll see you tomorrow."

Services were held at St. Timothy Lutheran Church July 24.

Nell Mahlke

Nell J. Robie Mahlke, 87, of St. Paul, died Aug. 3. She is survived by her husband, Dean; sons, Jeffrey (Mary Lou Church) Phillips, Christopher Phillips, Mark (Sue) Phillips and Steven (Nonie) Phillips; three

grandchildren; siblings, Dorothy (Bob) Senese, Harry (Phyllis) Robie, Maureen Detrick and William (Ginny) Robie; and sister-in-law, Mary Robe.

Her funeral service was held Aug. 8 at Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Como Park.

Kirk Marschel

Kirk K. Marschel, 25, of Maplewood, died July 20.

He is survived by his parents, Kevin and Paulette (née Mueller); brother, Erik; and grandparents, Al and Ellie Mueller.

His funeral service was held July 25 at Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Como Park.

Marion Skweres

Marion (Frost) Skweres, 96, of Falcon Heights, died July 22.

She was preceded in death by her husband and best friend of 61 years, Thomas C.; infant daughter, Jeanne Marie; brother, Donald; sisters, Hedwig Heenan and Delores Degnan. She is survived by her children, Geri (Ted) Jaros, Pat (Mike) Holland, Thomas (Cyndi), Susan Skweres, Charles and Mark (Susan Salata); 14 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren; special niece, Lorraine Heenan; and nephew, Tom Degnan.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated July 28 at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church in Roseville, with interment at Calvary Cemetery.

Marcel (Ket) Richter

Marcel Kessel (Ket) Richer, a retired University of Minnesota professor of

economics, died July 11. He was born in New York, N.Y., in 1932; was raised in Leonia, N.J.; and graduated from Birch Wathen School, Swarthmore College, and MIT.

Ket used tools from mathematical logic and set theory to develop powerful methods for understanding fundamental economic questions of consumer preferences, rationality, choice, coalition formation, competition, and equilibrium. His work on revealed preference is widely applied to analyze and predict behavior by rational agents. Following his vision, generations of economists have used mathematical tools to develop simple techniques for analyzing complex problems.

Always deeply curious and passionate about ideas, Ket was a spirited colleague, dedicated mentor and lifelong learner. At his death, he was preparing a new theory on intensity of preference.

Ket met his beloved wife, Sheila Mills Richter, at Swarthmore. They wed upon graduation in 1954 and remained lovingly married until her death in 2011. Both were members of the Prospect Hill Friends Meeting.

He was preceded in death by his wife and parents, Maurice Nathaniel Richter and Brina Hirshfield Kessel Richter. He is survived by daughters Cynthia Reis-Richter (Martha) of Minneapolis and Leila Fiester (Reid) of Frederick, Md.; grandchildren Solea Fiester and Carlos Reis-Richter; and brothers Maurice N. Richter, Jr. and Wayne Richter (Anne White).

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or call 651-646-5369.

To place an ad for a business south of Como Avenue,
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651-270-5988 or clare.caffrey@parkbugle.org

To place an ad for a business north of
Como Avenue, contact Bradley Wolfe,
952-393-6814 or bradley.wolfe@parkbugle.org

To place a classified ad, email classifieds@parkbugle.org
or call 651-239-0321.

YOUR NEWS AND VIEWS

1951 tragedy from 1

Pacific Hospital near Snelling and University avenues.

Mrs. John J. Keller owned the cabbage patch behind 1780 W. Larpenteur Ave., where the plane crashed. She told the St. Paul Dispatch that, because of the daily shows, she had "lived in fear all week that we'd be killed." Her grandson, William Miller, 13, had been hoeing weeds just before the crash and started running as the plane approached.

Several thousand curiosity-seekers rushed to the scene, causing extensive damage to the 10-acre truck garden.

The teaming of Middleton and Ferris, sometimes billed as "The Skylarks," had been veteran stuntman George Waltz's idea for revitalizing an act he originated years before. People had grown tired of seeing him ride the wing himself, and Waltz decided if he was to get more fair bookings, he needed a more powerful plane and a "pretty girl" to take over his role.

Middleton, the youngest of 13 children, didn't require much persuasion to leave home for such exciting work. Waltz obtained his new plane, a Boeing Stearman that had been used as a trainer for Navy pilots in World War II, from a well-

known Twin Cities-based aviator, Chuck Doyle. As a young man, Doyle had performed stunts himself at the Minnesota State Fair and went on to work for Northwest Airlines.

"My dad and Waltz had a handshake agreement," recalls Chuck Doyle Jr. "No money down and \$3,000 to be paid at the conclusion of the Minnesota fair."

Aerial thrill shows—wing walkers, parachutists, car-to-plane and plane-to-plane transfers, planes crashing into "houses"—had been a popular grandstand feature for 40 years. Despite this recent tragedy, at least one newspaper predicted that the shows were likely to continue.

An investigation by the Civil Aeronautics Administration found that Ferris was flying lower than authorized and absolved fair officials of responsibility for the accident. But there would be no more stunt flying at the fair.

In that less litigious era, Doyle Sr. never got paid for his plane but didn't pursue the matter; nor is there any record of lawsuits being filed by Middleton's or Ferris's survivors.

Doyle Sr. owned another Stearman plane, however, a twin to the one that was destroyed. That aircraft became a familiar sight to fairgoers well into the 1980s as he

used it to haul banners for KSTP broadcasting, 7UP soda and many other clients.

Doyle Jr. has restored that plane and still flies it occasionally at air shows, where it delights crowds just as its sister ship did, for a short time, all those years ago.

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



Kitty Middleton poses for a publicity photo. *Houston (Missouri) Herald*

Classifieds

Send your ad to classifieds@parkbugle.org or P.O.Box 8126, St. Paul, MN 55108, or call Fariba Sanikhatam, 651-239-0321. Ads are \$5 per line. Add a box or art for \$10. **Next deadline: Sept. 12.**



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GARAGE SALES

ST. ANTHONY PARK COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE: Saturday, Sept. 13, 9 am-5 pm. To be part of the sale, go to sapcc.org for a form and submit it by Sept. 9. To shop the sale, find maps at 8 am 9/13 @ Speedy or Hampden Park Co-op.



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To place an ad for a business south of Como Avenue, contact Clare Caffrey 651-270-5988 or clare.caffrey@parkbugle.org

To place an ad for a business north of Como Avenue, contact Bradley Wolfe, 952-393-6814 or bradley.wolfe@parkbugle.org

To place a classified ad, email classifieds@parkbugle.org or call 651-239-0321.

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In Wonderful North St. Anthony Park!

NEW 1543 Grantham Street - \$650,000

This incredible EDWIN LUNDIE designed home is the Park's prime example of the renowned architect's work. 4+ BR, 3 baths, all set on a HUGE lot in an ideal North St. Anthony Park location. The main floor is designed perfectly for entertaining, including an updated kitchen and formal dining room. There's a huge master bedroom with private bath and walk-in closet. 4+ garage stalls, beautifully landscaped lot, and so much more!! *Must see! Don't miss it!*

1666 Coffman St., #112 - \$219,900

A spacious Cloquet style unit, located on the main floor of the building which means you can bring your dog AND your cat with you! This lovely home offers a very open floor plan with exceptionally spacious living AND bedroom areas. There is a large walk-in closet in the entry foyer and two HUGE closets in the master bedroom suite. Finally, there are some wonderful bookshelves built into the 2nd bedroom. Private 10' x 8' patio too!

NEW 1666 Coffman St., #132 - \$189,900

A spacious Morris style unit located on the main floor of the building which means you can bring your dog along with you! This lovely home offers two bedrooms and two baths. There is new flooring, new appliances, new countertops, LOTS of fresh paint, and gorgeous south and west Courtyard views. This is sure to go quickly!

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Rock Star Supply Co. has new name, expanded programming

One year after Rock Star Supply Co. set up shop at the southwest corner of Raymond and University avenues, the tutoring and writing development center that offers free tutoring and homework help to low-income students ages 6 to 18, has adopted a new name and expanded programming.

Now called the Mid-Continent Oceanographic Institute, or MOI, the center will launch a crowdsourcing campaign through Indiegogo on Sept. 15 to raise capital to open a retail shop aimed at funding the program.

MOI was awarded a \$30,000

Star Grant from the City of St. Paul, and the Indiegogo campaign will raise money to match that funding, said Chad Kampe, director of the center. The funding goal is \$41,300.

MOI is also one of three groups in the running to receive a \$5,000 grant per year over three years from the St. Anthony Park Community Foundation. (See the story about that grant challenge on page 8.)

MOI is working to become part of author Dave Eggers' 826 National, a nonprofit that gives leadership training, administration and other resources to writing and tutoring centers around the country. The

centers are patterned after Pirate Supply Co., which was started by author Dave Eggers in San Francisco. Pirate Supply blends a fun retail shop (yes, it sells pirate gear) with artists and writers who are willing to tutor.

Besides Kampe, MOI has two full-time AmeriCorps VISTA workers and a number of volunteers working with students. Kampe says this year schools will come to the center on field trips for bookmaking and writing workshops.

Find out more about MOI or to volunteer go to www.moi-msp.org.—Kristal Leebrick



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Bees, prairie restoration topics of fall SAP garden club meetings

What's new in prairie restoration? What's the latest on bee populations? Find out at the upcoming St. Anthony Park Garden Club meetings.

Naturalist Marcie O'Conner will present "Prairie Restoration: Large and Small" on Tuesday, Sept. 2. Distinguished University of Minnesota professor and researcher Marla Spivak will present "Update on Bees and What We Can Do to

Help Their Population Increase" on Tuesday, Oct. 7.

The Garden Club meets the first Tuesday of each month at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church Fellowship Hall, 2136 Carter Ave. Programs begin at 7:30 p.m. and are preceded by a club business meeting at 6:30 p.m. and a social time at 7 p.m.

The public is welcome. You don't have to live in St. Anthony Park

to join. Annual individual memberships are \$17, a dual or family membership is \$25, and a student membership is \$5. Contact the club at sapgardenclub@comcast.net.

The Garden Club exists to enrich the community with programs, scholarships, library and post office plantings, plant sales and garden tours.

Tutors needed for Minnesota Reading and Math corps

The Minnesota Reading Corps and Math Corps are seeking 83 literacy tutors and 83 math tutors in St. Paul schools for the 2014-15 school year.

Area schools with open tutor positions include Como Park Elementary, Crossroads Elementary, Galtier Magnet, Hmong College Prep Academy, Humboldt Secondary, John A. Johnson Achievement Plus, Lexington Kids Christian Child Care, Mississippi Creative Arts, Murray Middle School, Open World Learning Community, Paul and Sheila Wellstone Elementary, Rainbow Child Development Center, St. Paul Music Academy, Washington Technology Magnet and Wilder Child Development Center.

Both full- and part-time tutors

are needed. Tutors commit to 11 months of service, during which they earn a biweekly living allowance of \$526 (full-time) and an education award of up to \$5,645 to help pay for further education. Full-time tutors may also receive health insurance.

Minnesota Reading Corps and Minnesota Math Corps are statewide initiatives to help every Minnesota student become a successful reader by

the end of third grade and proficient in math by the end of eighth grade.

Tutors are trained by Reading Corps and Math Corps. Tutor candidates come from a variety of backgrounds, ranging from high school graduates to retirees.

To learn more, visit www.MinnesotaReadingCorps.org or www.MinnesotaMathCorps.org, or call 866-859-2825.

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Murray Middle School seeks volunteer tutors

Murray Middle School, 2200 Buford Ave., is seeking volunteer tutors to work in the Pilot One-on-One program.

Tutors will work with students in grades 6-8 weekdays between 11:15 a.m. and 2 p.m. Tutors can

choose the day or the hour that works for them. Training is provided.

To volunteer, contact Cindy Thrasher, Pilot One-on-One tutoring coordinator, at cindy.thrasher@spps.org or 651-293-8740.

Schools host Cub Scout registration night Sept. 18

"Rocket Into Scouting" at your local elementary school on Thursday, Sept. 18, from 7-8 p.m.

Statewide, boys in grades K-5 can sign up for Cub Scouts on this evening. There will be registration tables at local elementary schools, including St. Anthony Park, Chelsea Heights, Como Park, Crossroads,

Brimhall, Falcon Heights and Maternity of Mary-St. Andrew School.

Every new scout who registers on this evening will receive a rocket that can be built by the scout and launched.

For more information, go to rocketintoscouting.org.

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