



The winner!

Transition Town wins three-year SAP foundation grant challenge

Page 7



Como Avenue

Has everything you need (almost)

Page 9-11



Back to school

A sports spotlight and more school news

Pages 17-18

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Park Bugle

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October 2014

Murray remodel creates a new wing for sixth-graders

By Kristal Leebrick

When students returned to Murray Middle School in September they were greeted with a little more elbowroom in the school's halls and classrooms.

Murray unveiled a \$2 million remodel this fall that includes a new sixth-grade wing and cafeteria. The school also experienced a significant decline in enrollment from last year's 900 students to 693 this year.

Last year, Murray transitioned from a grades 7-8 junior high school to a 6-8 middle school. Part of the school's overcrowding was due to an extra-large eighth-grade class. Now the three grades are fairly evenly split with 235 sixth-graders, 219 seventh-graders and 233 eighth-graders.

The remodel took out the school's swimming pool and replaced it with a state-of-the-art cafeteria and kitchen. The pool had not been used for several years, according to principal Stacy Theien-Collins.

The cafeteria floor was tiled to mimic the swimming lanes in the old pool and the former swimming bench along one wall was kept in the design, according to David Moll of ATS&R Architects, who designed the new space. The pool's locker room is now storage space.

The school's former cafeteria was remodeled into five classrooms and two locker bays for the sixth grade. "Now all the sixth grade is together and the new classrooms have windows," Moll said.

At the school's ribbon-cutting ceremony on Sept. 11, district superintendent Valeria Silva praised the architects and district project manager Andrew McGlory for getting the work done in 10 weeks and having it ready when school started.



Superintendent Valeria Silva, school board member Louise Seeba and Murray principal Stacy Theien-Collins cut the ribbon to the new cafeteria on Sept. 11. Photos by Kristal Leebrick



Teacher Ron Beck is enjoying his sunny new classroom in the sixth-grade wing. His classroom used to be the school kitchen.

What's ahead for Como post office?

By Roger Bergerson

For those who might have believed the future of the U.S. Postal Service's Como Station was secure, it was disconcerting to see a "For Sale" sign go up on the building in late August.

Five years ago, when branches were being closed, the facility at 2286 Como Ave. was considered

vulnerable, but it survived those cuts.

Now uncertainty has returned because the Postal Service rents rather than owns the space it occupies, and the building's owner has put it on the market with an asking price of \$799,900.

"We have a lease through the end of 2015 that would be binding on a new owner," said Pete Nowacki,

spokesman for the Postal Service. "There are no plans to move or change the operations of the post office."

The building had been home to auto repair and servicing businesses since at least 1933 when Harold "Buzz" McCann acquired it in 1960. His company, Statewide Engine Rebuilders, served the trucking

industry. On the side, McCann worked on stock cars he raced at the Minnesota State Fair and elsewhere.

After fire gutted the structure in the late 1960s, McCann rebuilt, and the Postal Service began leasing the space in 1970.

(For the previous 40 years, the Como branch post office had

Post office to 6

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.

Sunday Series returns

The District 10 Como Community Council's popular Sunday Series of speakers returns this fall with a presentation by police commander and noted historian John DeNoma at 1 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 28, at the Historic Streetcar Station, 1224 Lexington Parkway N. He will discuss the history of the Saintly City's police department, which has not always been so saintly.

DeNoma was with the department for 30 years. St. Paul Police Historical Society members will be present to help fill in the blanks. Admission is free; donations are welcome.

District 10 seeks donations for pancake breakfast silent auction

Donations from neighbors and neighborhood businesses are needed for the annual District 10 Pancake Breakfast and Silent Auction, which will be held 8-11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 25, at the Hubert H. Humphrey Job Corps Center, 1480 Snelling Ave. N. From small to large—a gift certificate to a unique, local item—your donations to the silent auction will help support District 10's work and programs in the community. To make a donation, email district10@district10comopark.org or call 651-644-3889. All donations are tax-deductible.

Rail safety forum set for Oct. 8

The District 10 Como Community Council and District 6 Planning Council will host a neighborhood

forum on railroad safety at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 8, at North Dale Recreation Center, 1414 St. Albans St. N. The forum will include presentations about rail safety and emergency preparedness and a question-and-answer session. Learn more at district10comopark.org.

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. Larpeteur Ave.

Chili cook-off is Oct. 4

The 2014 Falcon Heights Fire Department open house and chili cook-off will be held 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 4.

Attendees can meet local firefighters, tour the garage, sit in fire trucks and check out firefighter gear.

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 will benefit the Firefighter Relief Association, and the winning chili will receive a prestigious traveling trophy. Entry is free.

Complete the registration form at www.falconheights.org. Cost to attend the all-you-can eat event is \$5 for children 12 and older and adults and \$3 for children under 12.

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.

New bus route connects Lauderdale to the Green Line

Metro Transit has a new bus route serving Lauderdale. Route 30

connects north Minneapolis to the St. Anthony Park neighborhood. The bus will pick up riders on Larpeteur Avenue before heading south on Eustis Street to HealthPartners and ultimately the METRO Green Line's Raymond Avenue Station. On the return, the bus connects residents to the shops at the Quarry in northeast Minneapolis before traveling on through Minneapolis to Golden Valley (ending near Theodore Wirth Park).

The bus runs every 30 minutes Monday through Friday. Printed bus schedules are available at Lauderdale City Hall.

St. Anthony Park

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

District 12 postpones election

The St. Anthony Park Community Council board of directors has postponed the October election of new members to spring 2015 or until the board completes a strategic planning process.

The board passed a resolution at its Sept. 11 meeting, postponing the elections.

The district council is currently working with a consultant to find

ways to improve itself and better serve St. Anthony Park. Board members, many of whom have sat on the body for many years, are dedicated to this intensive planning process and feel bringing on new members at this time would complicate the process and potentially hinder the productivity of this important phase in the organization's history.

Board retreat time to reflect, plan

The St. Anthony Park Community Council board of directors participated in a team-building retreat in August at Luther Seminary. Consultant Barbara Raye of the St. Anthony Park-based Center for Policy, Planning and Performance facilitated the retreat.

"The board was able to start building a vision of how to better serve the St. Anthony Park community moving forward," said SAPCC executive director Suyapa Miranda.

"We should feel really good about what we accomplished," said one board member in a survey about the retreat.

"The whole point of the retreat was to talk about who we are, what we need to do, how we must improve. The facilitator did an excellent job moving things along," said another.

Board members and staff also participated in the Diamond Inclusiveness Assessment, a tool designed to help organizations measure and shape their cultural-inclusiveness performance.

Council launches youth Civic Stewardship Apprentice Program

The District 12 Community Council has launched a pilot program with Jennings Community

Charter School and Avalon School to work with students on civic involvement. The Civic Stewardship Apprentice Program (CSAP) will work with three students for one-semester terms on neighborhood projects of each student's choosing. Students will attend certain committee meetings, and help St. Anthony Park Community Council staff pursue projects and initiatives by helping around the office and at events throughout the semester.

Parking Possibilities on University

A group calling themselves Parking Possibilities has launched an online community conversation about parking on University Avenue along the Green Line. University Avenue currently has two driving lanes in each direction. Parking Possibilities is asking residents and businesses in each segment of the corridor whether one lane in each direction should be used for parking instead.

The group is seeking input to formulate a report to present to the St. Paul City Council. Learn more about the parking options being considered and fill out a short survey at www.parkingpossibilitiesmsp.com.

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) 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.



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Gertrude Esteros Day

In honor of her 100th birthday and civic involvement, Falcon Heights Mayor Peter Lindstrom has declared Oct. 1 Gertrude Esteros Day in the city.

Lindstrom presented Esteros with the declaration on Sept. 7 at a tribute to her at 1666 Coffman Condominiums on Larpeteur Avenue, the complex she took a lead roll in developing in the mid-1980s.

Esteros led the University of Minnesota's Design department for 30 years and founded the Goldstein Gallery (now the Goldstein Museum of Design). Now residing at Episcopal Homes, Esteros returned to 1666, where residents of the complex and family members treated her to a concert of Finnish Music by the Saana Ensemble (a nod to Esteros' Finnish heritage), stories from friends, cookies (cardamom, her favorite) and cider. — *Kristal Leebrick*



Roseville part of study on creating 'dementia friendly' communities

By Warren Wolfe

Shortly after Charles Luman reluctantly placed his wife, Libby, in an assisted-living home, a friend at a weekly breakfast looked closely at him and said, "Chuck, you look a lot better."

"Heck, I didn't think I looked so bad," Luman, 79, of Roseville, recalled later. "But maybe that's what happens when you take care of somebody with Alzheimer's. You kind of slowly wear down without realizing it."

The swelling tide of people with dementia and caregivers like Luman—both growing as the population ages—is why 32 groups of volunteers in Minnesota have embarked on programs to help make their communities "dementia friendly."

The City of Roseville is among them. About 20 residents, care providers, city officials, parish nurses and groups such as the Como Park/Falcon Heights Living at Home Block Nurse Program and Lyngblomsten are working on a project called Roseville Act on Alzheimer's. It is part of a statewide collaborative working to improve life for those with Alzheimer's and to help their families and community businesses, churches and other groups be more effective.

A community forum to address those issues will be held from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 21, at Fairview Community Center, 1910 County Road B W.

Years ago, dementia—most common among older people—was rare simply because people died much younger. By 2000, about 88,000 Minnesotans had Alzheimer's and similar dementia diseases. Now the number is about 95,000 and will reach 110,000 by the year 2025, officials estimate.

It affects about one in nine people 65 and older—nearly one in three 85 and older. Alzheimer's accounts for about 70 percent of dementia diseases.



Charles Luman visits his wife, Libby, several times a week at an assisted-living home in Maplewood. Luman holds the couple's wedding photo on a recent visit. Photo by Kristal Leebrick

There is no cure, although medications can slow its progress for a time in about half of patients. Damage to brain cells slowly disrupts a person's memory, judgment and personality. Ultimately it leads to death, although most patients die earlier of something else.

In Roseville, nearly 750 people have dementia. Most live at home and about 110 live alone. Roseville has one of the higher percentages in the state of people age 65 and older (20.2 percent). By contrast, Minnesotans age 65 and older make up 12.9 percent of the population. Roseville also has a higher rate of dementia than in many Minnesota communities (10-13 percent).

At the community meeting Oct. 21, residents and others with

ties to Roseville will hear about its strengths and gaps in meeting the needs of people with dementia. They'll also learn results of a recent survey of residents and businesses that found strong support for improving knowledge about the signs of dementia, the skills to interact with people with dementia and the ability to make referrals.

Then they will help select priorities for future action, such as developing a list of community resources or training neighbors, businesses and clergy to better understand and help people with dementia.

"There are lots of really smart

Alzheimer's to 8

New Lyrebird Youth Choir will perform hits from '50s, '60s, '70s

By Kyle Mianulli

Chanson Voice and Music Academy is looking to bring a taste of the oldies to the neighborhood and area youth. The music school at 795 Raymond Ave. launched the Lyrebird Youth Choir this fall for sixth- to eighth-graders, who will perfect and perform timeless hits from the '50s, '60s and '70s at a retro-themed community outreach event in October and at a final concert Nov. 23 at the Danish American Center, 3030 W. River Parkway, Minneapolis.

The 10-week session is called "Going Back in Time Along the Green Line," which is just what the group will do at their community

outreach day Saturday, Oct. 18. Outfitted in retro fashions, the youth group will make its way up and down the METRO Green Line, singing hits from groups like The Beatles and Led Zeppelin. The day will culminate with special performances at area shops, including Succotash and Shag Studio.

Directors Anika Kildegard and Cassandra McNally, who teach at the school, say there is an essential community-oriented aspect to choir. They hope to partner with local shops around the Raymond-University area by partnering with local shops for the event.

Feeling part of a whole, along

with the personal empowerment that comes from mastering one's own body as an instrument, is also a valuable experience for youth in the transformational phase of their lives leading up to high school, said Kildegard.

"It's the most exciting part about choir is being able to come together and make one piece of music," McNally said.

"There's really something empowering about using your body to do something that is successful," Kildegard added. "It's also about young people getting together to do something successful."

Youth choir to 8

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EDITORIAL

Hats off to St. Anthony Park Area Seniors!

One in eight Americans are over 65 years old and the senior population is expected to double by 2030.

Nobody feels the weight of our increasingly aging population more than the board of St. Anthony Park Area Seniors (SAPAS). An organization that began in 1981 as the St. Anthony Park Block Nurse Program (*the* original block nurse program in the country), SAPAS just completed an assessment process with the Wilder Foundation to figure out where the organization should go from here.

The program began more than three decades ago to help seniors stay in their homes by providing nursing care and other support services. Now, the bulk of that work has been taken over by health care and social service agencies, and SAPAS is looking for new ways to serve aging residents who live in St. Anthony Park, Lauderdale and the western area of Falcon Heights.

Through May and June SAPAS board members met with focus groups to ask what people in the baby boom generation and beyond would like to see the group offer to the community. What did they find out? That people here want to stay in their community as they age. And we live in an aging

community where half the households have no children under 18 and one-third of the residents are 55 and older.

At a Sept. 16 public meeting at Luther Seminary, SAPAS shared the results of the focus groups and asked the nearly 100 people in attendance how the group can best serve area seniors and their caregivers.

Should the group be advocating for the creation of “senior-friendly” housing in the area? Or work to enhance public transportation options for seniors who want to stay mobile? Affordable housing? Community events? Caregiver support?

These questions kicked up a lively discussion and plenty for the SAPAS board to work with in the coming months as the organization maps its future.

It’s impressive that this volunteer board has invested the time and resources to reassess its future. But what’s most impressive is that this group has reached out to the community it serves to ask people what they want from the group and what the community perceives as SAPAS’s role in the community.

SAPAS has set a standard for other neighborhood groups.

COMMENTARY

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 November issue is Wednesday, Oct. 8.

Why I teach at Murray Middle School

By Tim Chase

With the passing of iconic Murray science teacher Dr. Johnny Bland last year, I found myself going over some classic quotes from him. One that stuck out in my mind was from the time that Nancy Nielson retired and Tom Olin took over as principal, as I was fraught with concern as to how the transition would happen. Johnny took me aside, as he and fellow science teacher Art Payne often did, and explained, “Principals come, and principals go, but Tim, you’ll be here forever.”

It was funny how he was right about that and so many other things. In the last year, Murray has gone through the biggest changes this building has seen in over 32 years. We have transitioned from a junior high to a middle school concept and all that goes with that model. Along with that, we had a complete replacement of the administrative staff, added sixth-grade students, put them in an inadequate facility for a

year, and had more students in the school than I had ever seen in my 20 years of teaching at Murray.

I have enjoyed teaching at Murray over the years, getting to know so many people in the community, the students and parents. I take great pride in teaching science, watching the “light” go on when a student begins to understand, seeing students asking questions and helping each other, and having the administrative support of new ideas. I like the laughter in the hallways, parents/guardians who ask questions and insist on a strong school, and the parents/guardians who volunteer to make Murray an even better school.

But my thoughts as to why I took the job at Murray were brought back to me as I listened to a story on NPR the Saturday after Johnny’s passing. I was correcting papers, drinking coffee and heard a story about *Brown v. The Board of Education* case. It is so clear that the journey to equitable education for all is still a journey this country is on

and unfortunately, it has many more twists and turns in the road ahead. It reminded me that the school is the place for learning so many things, like reading and writing, but it is also the place where communities come together. It is where white meets black, poor meets rich, English meets other languages, and academically gifted meet academically challenged. It is where students can learn they are more alike than different.

I so appreciate that Murray is one of these truly diverse places where a student can meet everyone from all walks of life. Our school is that place where communities come together, where isolation with “like-minded people” is disrupted and we see the world, as it truly is: diverse and complicated.

Donna (Mrs. Chase) and I have sent our three kids to Murray over the years. We were having a conversation last year about something that happened in our son’s sixth-grade classroom at Murray, and she said she was glad that he gets to

interact with people from other cultures and walks of life, as he will have to in the real world. The sooner he meets and embraces the fact that he is more alike than different from other people, the sooner he will be able to interact competently and sensitively to those around him in his journey.

Murray affords him this opportunity.

This school year has gotten off to a great start: The overcrowding has ended with more than 100 fewer students in the building, so class sizes are reasonable. We have a sixth-grade wing that is made for teaching our students, and we have a staff that wants to teach here. All of this makes a great difference. Together, the staff and parents/guardians, are working to build a strong school in a strong community. I’m looking forward to an awesome year at Murray Middle School.

Tim Chase is a science teacher at Murray Middle School.

LETTERS

Please curb your dog

My neighbor, Diane Norris, and I were doing yard work in our own gardens on Sunday, Sept. 7, when a couple allowed their big brown dog to invade Diane’s hosta bed and defecate. We both called out to them to stop the dog, but we were informed by one of the adults “it was just a hosta bed.” He continued to express his viewpoint in a belligerent manner, telling me that his dog could go anywhere on either side of the block and that was what we get for living on a walkway.

He finally cleaned up the mess and proceeded down Gove Place, where the couple allowed their dog

to perform in the hosta bed behind the Emily Program building.

They are not the only ones. I know when my flowerbeds have been contaminated on the inside of my property. I also frequently see people with their dogs using the Emily Program bed and also the flowerbeds on Como Avenue. People stand in the alley behind the Emily Program and let their dogs use the back of my neighbor’s property all the time.

This has been going on for years. I tried to call law enforcement to find out if there were laws pertaining to this, but no one was able to state whether or not there

were such laws. Whether it’s legal or not to allow your dog to defecate on your neighbor’s garden, my question is: When will humans learn manners when taking care of their pets?

*Ellen Healy
and Diane Norris
St. Anthony Park*

Plane rerouting has increased noise in our neighborhoods

I live in Northwest Como and am concerned about the recent rerouting of plane traffic from the Minneapolis-St. Paul International

Airport over our neighborhoods. It appears that St. Anthony Park, Como Park, Falcon Heights and possibly other communities have been impacted.

I want to make residents of these affected areas aware that excessive plane traffic and plane noise can be reported to the MSP website, macnoise.com. Click on “file a noise complaint,” answer a few simple when/where/what-type questions and submit. If there is enough public feedback, we may be able to get our quiet neighborhood back.

*Ethan Conroy
Como Park*

Black Bear Crossings owner announces city council candidacy

David Glass announced his candidacy for St. Paul Ward 5 City Council at a press conference at his restaurant, Black Bear Crossings on the Lake at Como Lakeside Pavilion, on Sept. 17. The seat is currently held by Amy Brendmoen, who won election in a close race against incumbent Lee Helgen in 2011. The election will be held Nov. 3, 2015.

"More common sense and more business sense is needed in St. Paul decision making," Glass said in his announcement.

Glass and his wife, Pamela, opened the Black Bear Coffee House and Community Circle south of Lake Como by the railroad tracks 18 years ago. In 2000, they contracted with the City of St. Paul to open Black Bear Crossings on the Lake—a coffee shop and wedding vendor—at the Como Lakeside Pavilion. The city chose not to renew

that contract last fall. In November the city announced it was looking for a new vendor to provide better service and draw more visitors to the venue.

The Glasses filed a suit against the city this summer over its refusal to renew the lease and accusing the city of defamation. A Ramsey County district judge ruled that Black Bear was eligible for damages over the city's refusal to renew the lease but denied the restaurant's request to have the lease extended.

The city reached an \$800,000 settlement with the Glasses to avoid going to trial.

Black Bear will continue operating through the end of the year. The city began taking proposals for a new vendor in September and will be reviewing those proposals Oct. 10-12.

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10 – 11:30 a.m.
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All are welcome. The session is free.

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Music in the Park will host two concerts in October

The Schubert Club's Music in the Park Series will present two chamber music concerts in October at St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ, 2129 Commonwealth Ave.

The Danish String Quartet will perform on Sunday, Oct. 12, and the Miami String Quartet with pianist Lydia Artymiw will perform on Sunday, Oct. 26. Both concerts begin at 4 p.m. with a preconcert talk beginning at 3 p.m.

Embodying the quintessential elements of a chamber music ensemble, the Danish String Quartet has established a reputation for its integrated sound, impeccable intonation and judicious balance. The quartet makes its Twin Cities and Music in the Park Series debut at this concert.

Praised in the New York Times as having everything one wants in a quartet: a rich, precisely balanced

sound, a broad coloristic palette, real unity of interpretive purpose and seemingly unflagging energy," the Miami String Quartet has established its place among the most widely respected quartets in America. For more than 20 years, their diversity in programming, poise in performance, keen sense of ensemble and impeccable musicality have made the Miami String Quartet one of the most sought-after quartets in chamber music today. The quartet returns to Music in the Park Series with their long-time musical collaborator, Artymiw, who has also appeared on the series with many other celebrated chamber ensembles including the American, Daedalus and Guarneri string quartets. Artymiw is Distinguished McKnight Professor of Piano at the University of Minnesota School of Music, where she has taught since 1989.

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Halloween fun to benefit Special Olympics team

A "Halloween Spooktacular" will be held from 2 to 5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 18, at St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church, 2200 Hillside Ave. The event is a fundraiser for the St. Paul Magic Special Olympics team.

The event will feature a nonthreatening haunted house, kids

games, prizes, treats, a costume parade, a fire truck from the St. Paul Fire Department, a police car from the St. Paul Police Department, facepainting and a horse-drawn hayride. Costumes are encouraged. Halloween fun for kids of all ages. For more information contact Karen Ueland, 651-488-3262.

Post office from 1



The for sale sign in front of the Como Station post office is not a welcome sight for many area residents.

operated around the corner at 2238 Carter Ave., today the site of Micawber's Books.)

During the mid-1990s, McCann, then a resident of Hayward, Wis., tried to sell the building but was unsuccessful.

Cory Kingbay, the real estate

agent listing the property, says McCann's widow, Lorraine, now thinks it's time to try again. He says he's had a number of inquiries about the site from prospective buyers looking for locations for office, retail and restaurant operations.



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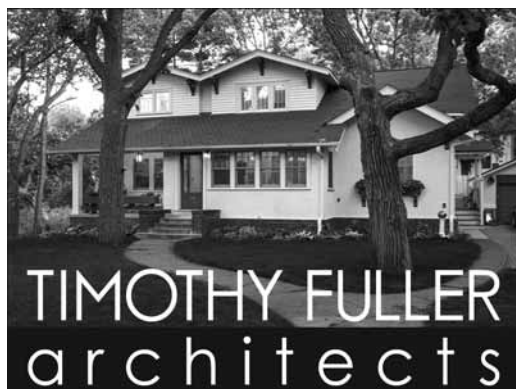
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Members of the Transition Town group marched in the Fourth in the Park parade in St. Anthony Park this summer. Photo by Kristal Leebriick

Transition Town wins grant challenge

Congratulations to Transition Town All St. Anthony Park, which won the most votes in the Saint Anthony Park Community Foundation's 15th anniversary grant challenge.

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 Transition Town, a group that was established two years ago to work on economic and infrastructure resilience in the community as it faces challenges associated with global climate change.

The group has already begun looking into creating a community-owned solar garden, local food production and preservation, and more. The grant will support broader community participation and communication through social media, Internet outlets and print.

St. Anthony Park residents and business owners voted online through Aug. 31 for one of three organizations to receive the three-year grant. The winner was announced at an anniversary party for the foundation at Urban Growler Brewing Co. on Sept. 19. Transition Town received 227 votes.

The other two contenders for the grants were Shakespeare in the Park, an outdoor community theater project that would provide performing arts opportunities for all



The St. Paul Vocal Forum performs under the direction of Karen Barrett in 2013.

St. Paul Vocal Forum will celebrate 10th anniversary at October concert

The St. Paul Vocal Forum will celebrate its 10th anniversary with the concert "How Can I Keep from Singing" at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 25, at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, 2323 Como Ave. The concert will include a newly commissioned work entitled "Her Face Is Framed," a secular piece inspired by St. Cecilia, the patron saint of musicians.

A Twin Cities chamber choir originally based at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, the Vocal Forum was founded by artistic director David Ryan Moberg, whose brother, Glenn Berg-Moberg is a pastor at the church. The choir includes singers from around the Twin Cities who audition to become a part of the 24-member group. The choir collects donations for charitable organizations at their concerts as a part of their mission to "brighten our world by sharing beautiful music and make a difference where there is need," according to their web site.

Current artistic director Karin Barrett has invited alumni of the choir to join current members on several pieces in the Oct. 25 program, and the original accompanist, Ann Braaten, will be featured on organ.

A pre-concert discussion will begin at 6:30 p.m. and feature the composer, David Ryan Moberg, and lyricist, Glenn Berg-Moberg, of "Her Face Is Framed" to be performed that evening. Guests are invited to stay for a reception immediately following the concert.—Alex Lodner

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

"Stories We Tell"

Thursday, October 9th, at SAP Library, 1-3 p.m.

The film excavates layers of myth and memory to find the elusive truth at the core of a family of storytellers. Starring: Michael Polley, Harry Gulkin and Susy Buchan. 108 minutes



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Walk for hunger on Oct. 12

Sometimes the troubles of the world seem so overwhelming that there is just nothing you can do about them. But in October, you can make a dent in world hunger by taking part in the annual CROP Hunger Walk at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, 2323 Como Ave. W.

In the 20 years of its existence, CROP Hunger Walks have raised more than \$294 million to fight world hunger, with nearly 2,000 communities taking part each year. The walks are community based,

interfaith and benefit both world and local programs. Twenty-five percent of the proceeds stay in the community. Last year nearly 20 St. Paul churches raised more than \$20,000. This year's goal is \$30,000, with the local money going to the Department of Indian Work food shelf at the St. Paul Area Council of Churches.

Walkers will meet at the church for registration at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 12. The walk will begin at 1:30 p.m. Participants may walk 2.5 miles

or 5 miles on a clearly marked route. You can walk with friends if you don't have a church affiliation, and if you don't feel up to walking, you can contribute by buying books at the church book sale before or after the walk. (All proceeds will go to CROP.)

For more information go to www.spacc.org/crop or Shelley Weiss at 651-206-4557 or at srwrepair@msn.com. —Michelle Christianson

Alzheimer's from 3

ideas for how to improve things," said Kitty Gogins, coordinator of the Roseville project, at a recent meeting of her team. "People at the community meeting will help us find the most effective and doable ideas with the biggest impact."

The Roseville Act on Alzheimer's project was launched by the Roseville Alzheimer's and Dementia Community Action Team. That volunteer group, started last year, also has sponsored memory screening clinics and community forums on legal and other issues for families dealing with dementia.

The statewide effort began in 2009 after the Legislature asked the Board on Aging to study how the state should prepare for rising numbers of people with dementia.

That led in 2011 to the Act on Alzheimer's collaborative of 50 state organizations, including all major health plans, medical and hospital associations, Mayo Clinic and AARP. Among the collaborative's activities, it has approved modest grants to help Roseville, the City of St. Paul and other communities develop individualized action plans.

Minnesota often is cited as a trailblazer in both assessing state and community needs and then—unusual among the states—taking action. Leaders of the Act on Alzheimer's group and the Minnesota Department of Human Services frequently explain the Minnesota approach at national conferences.

For those in the caregiving trenches, the work never ends—even when a loved one enters a nursing home or assisted-living facility.

"It's really hard to watch as Libby changes," Luman said. "It's like the person you love is slowly disappearing, and you can't do much about it."

He still teaches a course in business operations management at Metro State University after years as an engineer, business executive and early developer of computer systems. He remembers the family meeting where his two daughters told him it was time for their mom to move to assisted living so paid professionals could take over her care.

"They were right, but it wasn't easy to let go," Luman said.

By that time, about five years after her diagnosis, he employed two aides to come morning and evening to help dress, bathe and feed his wife. She had attended adult day care for about five hours several times a week. That gave him a break from the daily stress, but eventually the disease progressed and she no longer could participate.

"My caregiver support group at the Roseville Community Center told me that 40 percent of caregivers die before the person they're caring for," he said. "That's kind of shocking, but it shows how important it is to take care of yourself, and how important community support can be."

He visits Libby about every

other day. And while the stress is less, it's still there.

"I think sometimes Libby still knows who I am," Luman said during a recent visit. "But she hardly says anything anymore, sometimes a word or two. She lives pretty much inside herself now."

So it's even more essential that Luman help the assisted-living staff know the vibrant woman he married in 1960—the woman who raised three kids, coached neighborhood girls' softball, played cutthroat croquet and joined friends on antiquing forays into Wisconsin.

"This Roseville project, that could help more people be comfortable with people like Libby," he said.

"Sometimes it's hard for friends to remember that Libby is still Libby. You have to remember that."

Warren Wolfe of Roseville retired last year from the Star Tribune, where he wrote about aging issues for 21 years. He and his wife, Sheryl Fairbanks, helped care for their four parents, two with dementia. They also are active in the Roseville Act on Alzheimer's project. For more about the Act on Alzheimer's project, go to the Roseville city website www.ci.roseville.mn.us and search for Alzheimer's.

This article was supported by the MetLife Foundation Journalists in Aging Fellowships, a program of New America Media and the Gerontological Society of America.

Youth choir from 3

Both Kildegaard and McNally come from accomplished musical backgrounds. After receiving her bachelor's degree in music from the University of Minnesota-Morris, where she once sang a duet with Garrison Keillor, she went on to

work at the Performing Arts Institute in Kingston, Penn., and later the St. Paul-based Schubert Club, where she continues to provide students from disadvantaged backgrounds with musical training.

McNally received bachelor's and

master's degrees in vocal performance from the University of Northern Iowa and has been teaching voice for seven years. She has performed with the Mill City Opera and Minnesota Opera, as well as has led a variety of church youth choirs and children's music programs.

The Lyrebird Youth Choir is now meeting weekly but will still accept new registrations.

To sign up or learn more, contact Anika Kildegaard at kilde016@morris.umn.edu or 320-349-006, and Cassandra McNally at mockingbirdstudioofvoice@gmail.com or 612-834-8612.

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St. Anthony Park's Como Avenue shops

They've got (almost) everything you need

By Judy Woodward

Thirty years ago or thereabouts, an immigrant arrived in Minnesota from a land that knew no winter. A transplanted Californian from the San Francisco Bay Area, the newcomer had a small child and a husband who was constantly traveling for business. The first flakes of what was to be a harsh winter had already begun to fall and the immigrant knew not a single neighbor. Worse still—she had absolutely no idea how to drive in snow.

There was one bright spot. On her first morning in Minnesota, she walked one block from her house to the Como Avenue shopping district of St. Anthony Park and realized, “This is going to work. I have everything I need right here on Como Avenue.”

In the three decades since, the mixture of businesses that stretch down Como Avenue between Doswell Avenue and Knapp Street has changed a little, but the district still provides a passer-by with practically everything that makes life feasible, interesting and fun.

Start with food. If you haven't stopped at **Tim & Tom's Speedy Market** within the last week, you've probably been away on vacation. Emporium of the familiar as well as showcase of the gastronomically exotic, Speedy Market is also a great place to see your neighbors.

Maybe once upon a time it was simply a quick-stop market to pick up the forgotten gallon of milk and loaf of bread, but owners Tom Spreigl and Tim Faacks have long since transformed the place into a little gourmet temple that caters to the varied tastes and culinary backgrounds of its customers. Check it out for bargain organic produce, as well as German cookies, Irish butter and a full selection of Mexican and Asian food specialties. There's even a traditional tinned British dessert called “Spotted Dick”—a delicacy that this reporter has never had the nerve to try.

But who wants to eat every meal at home? Right across the street from Speedy, you'll find **Colossal Café**, which serves everything from benchmark breakfasts to bistro-style lunches and dinners. Despite its name, the Colossal has a pocket-size dining room that could easily fill up every day with diners drawn exclusively from the neighborhood. Since the Colossal's reputation extends far beyond the neighborhood, it can be very, very crowded. Fortunately, help for the hungry diner is only a block away at the corner of Carter and Como, where two other landmark eating establishments



The Courtyard Shoppes at Milton Square at Como and Carter avenues range from skin and hair care, photography, pottery, a law office and an English tea room.

stand ready. Both **The Finnish Bistro** (which shares premises with **Dunn Bros. Coffee**) and **Muffuletta** have carved out enviable reputations for memorable menus.

The Finnish Bistro serves all-day breakfasts that include Scandinavian delicacies like cardamom-scented pulla rolls and reindeer sausage. Muffuletta, which is named after a New Orleans sandwich that has remained on the menu ever since the restaurant opened 37 years ago, was the first venue in the area to obtain a beer and wine license. Its terrace remains one of the nicest outdoor dining spots in the Twin Cities.

And that's not all. **Lady Elegant's Tea Room** at Milton Square serves the rarefied delights of “veddy British” high tea. For those who don't follow the PBS show *Downton Abbey* closely, it might be pointed out that high tea is not just

a beverage but an English meal complete with cakes, biscuits and little sandwiches. Speaking of beverages, Milton Square also houses **The Little Wine Shoppe**, where an international selection of wines, craft beers and selected spirits offers something for every palate.

Of course, man (and woman) does not live by bread alone, not even when the bread is Swedish limpa rye resting comfortably beneath a slice of the Finnish Bistro's smoked salmon. The Como Avenue shopping district offers plenty of shopping opportunities for the rest of your needs. There's **Park Service** to keep your vehicles in tip-top shape, and several dentists and therapists to do the same for your teeth and psyche. Not to mention **EyeDeals** for eye care and glasses,

Como shopping to 10

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Want to buy a gift? Whether the present is intended for someone special or for yourself, you have **Emil Gustafson** for jewelry, **Bungalow Pottery** at Milton Square for unique display pieces, and **Bibelot** for everything else. If you're looking for a one-of-a-kind item for the house, try **Thistle**, the eclectic boutique in the basement of Milton Square that opens only on special weekends and by appointment. Or visit **Carter Ave. Frame Shop** to get ideas for framing anything from a recently purchased watercolor to your child's first-grade self-portrait to a treasured memento from a trip abroad.

Is there a child or an expectant parent on your list? **Peapods Natural Toys and Baby Care** offers everything from eco-friendly toys to free classes on cloth-diapering techniques.

How about updating your look? Try **Salon in the Park** for a full range of salon hair care services. Your face will thank you if you make an appointment with **Complexions on Carter**, a skincare boutique on the second floor of Milton Square. Esthetician Maggie Miley offers a 60-minute "Signature Facial" that includes massage, cleansing and



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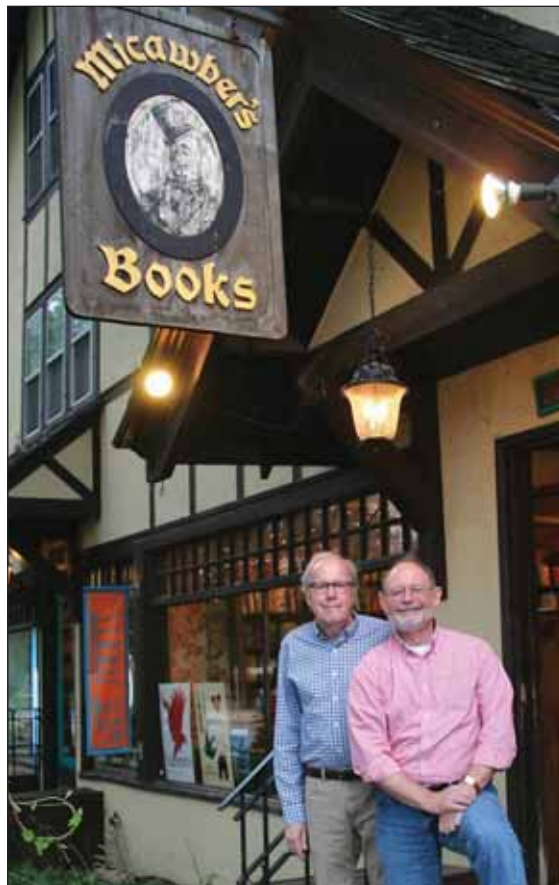


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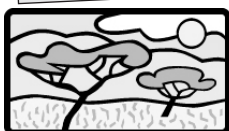
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Photos on page 10, clockwise from top: Milton Square shops; Emil Gustafson Jewelers' Suzanne and Joel Fantle; a bird's-eye view of the entrance to Thistle; Speedy Market's Tom Spreigl and Tim Faacks; and Micawber's proprietor Tom Bielenberg with visiting author William Kent Krueger. Above: the Little Wine Shoppe (left) and a window display at Peapods.

Pierce Richards Law Office at Milton Square.

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

hydration.

Of course, a day of shopping can be hard on more than your wallet. If all the buying decisions leave you feeling temporarily overwhelmed, consider this: The Como Avenue business district can help you escape (visit **Como Rose Travel** in the Healy building at the corner of Doswell Avenue) or focus on more serious things as well. A little farther east on Como Avenue is **Jim Roehrenbach's State Farm Insurance** agency to safeguard your valuables and **Steve Townley**

Re/Max real estate, in case the unthinkable happens and you want to leave the area.

Remember the sobering adage that nothing in life is certain except death and taxes? The area has those certainties covered too. A choice of Como Avenue churches and **Luther Seminary** are there to take care of the next life. As for this one, why postpone the inevitable? You can finish up your day with a tax or financial strategizing appointment at the office of **Catherine Holtzclaw Planning LLC** or estate planning at

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Business News

Salsa Lisa happy in new home

By Roger Bergerson

Neighbors and community groups may have wanted something other than an office-warehouse building at 650 Pelham Blvd., just north of I-94, but the new facility was just what the founder of Salsa Lisa was looking for.

Lisa Nicholson's sauce company had outgrown its production kitchen space nearby on University Avenue and the St. Anthony Park resident wanted to stay in the area. In March, Salsa Lisa became the first tenant in the new Meridian Industrial Center.

"At our previous location, we'd added on incrementally as we grew, but here we had a chance to design our space, and the flow of our work processes is much improved," she said. "Another advantage is that here we have four loading docks, while before we had one that we shared."

For about a year, the Union Park and St. Anthony Park community councils succeeded in blocking the plans of Industrial Equities L.L.P. to

build on the 5.2-acre tract. It had been the site of two Overnight Express warehouses until the St. Paul Port Authority demolished them to clear the parcel for development.

The St. Paul City Council sided with residents, but a Ramsey County District Court judge ruled in October 2012 that the developer could proceed. The 56,000-square-foot facility was completed in August 2013 and today it is fully leased.

Nicholson started making salsa to sell while attending the University of Minnesota in the early 1990s, founding her company in 1995.

In 2010, Calavo Growers Inc., of Santa Paula, Calif., seeking a line of salsas to complement its guacamole products, acquired majority ownership of Salsa Lisa.

"Our salsa appealed to them because we use fresh tomatoes, all natural ingredients and our products have a long shelf-life," Nicholson said.

The six varieties of Salsa Lisa are

refrigerated, which Nicholson says helps preserve their fresh flavor and nutritional value.

Locally, Salsa Lisa is available in most grocery stores and food co-ops, and Calavo's clout has helped place the products with major national retailers. The salsas currently are sold in 15 states, mainly in the Midwest and Northeast, as well as California.

On the day Nicholson talked to the Park Bugle, the operation was making 1,000 gallons of salsa, some of it destined for sale at Costco. Trucks from St. Paul carry the sauces to Calavo distribution centers in California, New Jersey and Texas.

"Salsa is easy to make cheap," said Nicholson. "It's hard to make it really good. Consumers are very discerning, and they have responded very favorably to our full-flavored products. It tends to get personal: 'That's my salsa, that's the only one I use.'"

In a few years, Calavo could exercise its option to acquire the share



Salsa Lisa's Lisa Nicholson, left, and Blanca Villanueva, production manager. Photo by Roger Bergerson

of the company still owned by Nicholson. In the meantime, she says the relationship she has with the parent company is a good one.

"We're very well supported," she said, "and they're very good at letting

us do what we know how to do."

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

WORKHORSE COFFEE opens in former Edge space

By Kyle Mianulli

South St. Anthony Park will once again have its own full-service coffee shop and café. WORKHORSE COFFEE BAR (yes, it's all caps) plans to open later this fall at 2399 University Ave. in the space that

formerly housed the Edge Coffee Shop.

In addition to artisan coffee and espresso drinks, WORKHORSE will offer a rotating selection of locally sourced sandwiches, pastries—including gluten free

options—and other organic offerings.

Co-owner Shannon Forney worked in the neighborhood at the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council in the Midtown Commons Building, 2324 University Ave., and said she has been acutely aware of the lack of a local coffee shop.

"I've worked in the neighborhood for five years and have definitely experienced the need for a local coffee shop," she said.

Friend, co-owner and head barista Ty Barnett brings 20 years of local coffee industry experience to the

new endeavor, including as a manager at Nina's Coffee Café and Black Dog Coffee in St. Paul. The women say they also drew inspiration from their own neighborhood coffee shop, Groundswell Coffee, in the Hamline Midway neighborhood.

The women hope to cultivate a welcoming community atmosphere with locally roasted coffee, regular music performances and other arts-friendly events and amenities such as a rotating gallery of local artists' work.

"Because of my work with the arts, I definitely have a commitment to working with artists and

understanding the value of creative placemaking and supporting entrepreneurs both as a business entity, but also as a customer profile," Forney said.

Along those lines, WORKHORSE COFFEE is one of 69 finalists in the St. Paul Knight Arts Challenge. Forney's proposal to cultivate the "tiniest museum in St. Paul," would convert a recessed fire hose cabinet in the front of the building into a miniature streetscape gallery. Winners will be announced later this month.

Welcoming New Board Members!

Clay Ahrens	Sandy Jacobs
Chris Deming	Julie Peterson
Adrian Frazier	Lisa Sackreiter
Don Hedges	Amy Williams

Junk Love brings more retro ware to Raymond Avenue shopping

By Kyle Mianulli

Joining the retro shopping hub in the Raymond-University shopping district, Junk Love recently opened a storefront shop at 777 Raymond Ave. that perfectly embodies the old adage about one person's junk being another person's treasure.

Specializing in Americana salvage and restoration, Junk Love offers a wide variety of practical, surprising and sometimes quirky home décor and collectibles that owner Malia Schroeder has gleaned from farm auctions, junk piles and garages around the region. She carefully, restores and sometimes reinvents every item in her shop by

hand with an eye toward creative craftsmanship.

She hopes to make her work and process visible to the public in the new space.

"I definitely want to get a visible workshop going," she said. "I want to bring that old-school vibe of the craftsman in the window to the block."

Schroeder ran Junk Love as a pop-up shop out of her space at the Carlton Artist Lofts for the past four years. When Driftwood Community Arts moved out of the Raymond Avenue space this spring, she jumped at the opportunity to invest in a brick-and-mortar establishment

surrounded by other antique and retro specialty shops like Succotash, MidModMen and Shag Studio.

"All of these shops kind of have their own style," she said. "I know as a hunter of this stuff, when I go somewhere and I see there's five other shops I can stop at, I'm stoked."

Schroeder has big plans for the space including hosting community workshops and events, as well as music performances and art shows. "I want it to be my workshop where people can watch me do my work and then I also want it to be a place where fun things can happen," she said.



Thanks to retiring members
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Steve Townley – thanks to
all for helping support
our community



A beer opener

Urban Growler proprietors Deb Loch (left) and Jill Pavlak (second from left) were joined by St. Paul Mayor Chris Coleman (second from right) and councilmember Russ Stark (right) at the brewery's grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony on Aug. 27. The brewery and restaurant, located at 2325 Endicott St., St. Anthony Park, is open six days a week: Tuesday-Thursday, 4-9 p.m.; Friday, 3-10 p.m.; Saturday, noon-10 p.m.; and Sunday, noon-8 p.m. *Photo by Kyle Mianulli*

IFP Minnesota will be an anchor tenant at new Vandalia Tower

Independent Filmmaker Project Minnesota (IFP Minnesota) will be an anchor tenant in Vandalia Tower, a new development by First & First, located at 550 Vandalia (off of University Avenue). The organization is moving from its current location at 2446 University Ave. W.

"We're thrilled to be one of the first organizations to make the move

to Vandalia Tower," said IFP Minnesota executive director Andrew Peterson.

Opening in January 2015, the new state-of-the-art media arts center will feature multiple classrooms (all equipped with projection and sound), screening space, video editing stations, a dedicated youth space and a photography gallery, as well as offices and meeting space.

With Lake Monster Brewing also in the building, IFP Minnesota hopes to be a site for receptions, events and screenings, including outdoor screenings in Vandalia Tower's courtyard.

IFP members and friends can get a first look at the new space under construction on Saturday, Nov. 8. More details will be announced at www.ifpmn.org.



Business Briefs

Peapods awarded for its sustainable business practices

Green America, a national nonprofit that promotes sustainable business practices, named St. Paul's Peapods Natural Toys & Baby Care store as one of three winners of the Summer 2014 People and Planet Award.

The award, which includes a \$5,000 prize, was given to three of the 10 businesses from across the country that were nominated. In addition to Peapods, Glee Gum of Providence, R.I., and Green Beginning Community Preschool of Los Angeles were also named as winners.

Peapods, which is celebrating 15 years in business this month, offers wood toys, cloth diapers, baby carriers and other green goods for kids at its store at 2290 Como Ave.

Millie Adelsheim, the founder and co-owner of Peapods, said they were "incredibly honored" to receive the award.

"Our goal at Peapods has always been twofold: to offer the safest and

greenest goods and to build community in our city. We believe that a locally owned store benefits a neighborhood in dozens of ways that chain stores or e-commerce sites do not. Today, we are thankful to our community for helping us achieve this award.

Adelsheim says they plan to use the award money to invest in more energy-efficient light fixtures and improve their selection of sustainably made toys for the upcoming holiday season.

You can find out more about the store at www.peapods.com.

Falcon Heights woman joins HR Green's Water Division

Jacqueline Strait of Falcon Heights has been appointed staff engineer with HR Green's Water Division in its St. Paul office. Strait earned a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University of Wisconsin and a master's degree in environmental engineering from the University of Minnesota. Strait

worked with Minneapolis Water Works on biologically active filters for taste and odor removal while working on her graduate degree.

Founded in 1913, HR Green has offices throughout the United States and provides engineering, technical and management services to clients working in transportation, water, governmental services, senior living, energy and land development.

Hermes wins big at State Fair

Hermes Floral, 1639 Larpenteur Ave., took two out of three of the top spots in the Minnesota State Florist Association's two-part design competition at the Minnesota State Fair in August.

Georgi Sawdey placed second and Sandy Biedler placed third. You can see Sawdey's and Biedler's semi-final and final arrangements on the Hermes Floral's Facebook page, www.facebook.com/pages/Hermes-Floral/.

More than \$10,000 in prizes will be given away at home tour

Castle Building & Remodeling plans to give away more than \$10,000 in remodeling prizes to entice visitors to its annual Educational Home Tour, Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 27-28.

The tour—which will run from noon to 6 p.m. each day—will feature 14 Twin Cities homes, along with two projects using eco-friendly sustainable building materials from Castle's sister company, Natural Built Home, and three landscaping projects through Field Outdoor Spaces.

The 2014 Castle Educational Home Tour's purpose is to show real, everyday remodeling projects, not just the largest or most expensive projects.

The grand prize is a \$5,000 remodeling project.

Additional prizes include:

- Custom bathroom vanity, countertop, sink and faucet replacement (\$3,550 value)
- \$1,000 Warner's Stellan gift certificate
- \$1,000 Landscaping Design Services from Field Landscaping
- Kohler cast-iron sink and a faucet (\$1,000 value)
- \$500 gift card to Natural Built Home gift
- Mythic Paint gift certificate to Natural Built Home \$250
- Various door prizes, totaling more than \$1,000 in value

Attendees have multiple chances to enter for all the prizes, with a check-in opportunity at all 19 homes on the tour.

For more information, go to www.castlehometour.com.

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OCTOBER

Events

Venue information is listed at the end of the calendar. Send your events to calendar@parkbugle.org by Wednesday, Oct. 8, to be included in the November issue.

1 WEDNESDAY

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

St. Anthony Park Book Club, "Salvage the Bones" by Jesmyn Ward, St. Anthony Park Library, 6:30-8 p.m.

2 THURSDAY

Preschool Mandarin Chinese storytime, St. Anthony Park Library,

10:30-11:30 a.m.

3 FRIDAY

Preschool storytime (ages 3-5), every Friday, St. Anthony Park Library, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

YMCA camps fall garage sale begins at State Fair Merchandise Mart (see more information on page 15.)

7 TUESDAY

Baby/toddler lap-sit storytime (birth-2), every Tuesday, St. Anthony Park Library, 10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

Microsoft Word Basics: Part One, St. Anthony Park Library, 10 a.m.-noon.

Class is limited to four. Call 651-642-0411 to reserve a spot.

9 THURSDAY

St. Anthony Park Senior Cinema Series, "Stories We Tell," St. Anthony Park Library, 1-3 p.m.

10 FRIDAY

Come hear the story of the Titanic from the unique point of view of Sylvia Caldwell, the wife of Titanic survivor, Albert Caldwell. The story will be dramatically presented by Mr. Caldwell's great niece, Julie Hedgepeth Williams, the author of the book, "A Rare Titanic Family," St. Anthony Park Library, noon-1 p.m.

11 SATURDAY

Fall craft fair, King of Kings Lutheran Church, Roseville, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

12 SUNDAY

North Suburban Evening Lions Club "All the Waffles You Can Eat Breakfast," John Rose Oval Skating Center, 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Raffle, cake walk. \$7 ages 6 and over; 5 and under free.

CROP Hunger Walk, St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, 1 p.m. Walk 2.5 or 5 miles to raise money for the Department of Indian Work Food Shelf and Church World Service. Learn more at www.spacc.org/crop.

13 MONDAY

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

"The Art of White Magic," presented

by William Meader, Spirit United Interfaith Church, 7 p.m.

14 TUESDAY

Microsoft Word Basics: Part One, St. Anthony Park Library, 10 a.m.-noon. Class is limited to four. Call 651-642-0411 to reserve a spot.

16 THURSDAY

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

18 SATURDAY

Halloween Spooktacular, benefiting St. Paul Magic Special Olympics team, St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church, 2-5 p.m. Haunted house, games, prizes, treats and more. Costumes encouraged.

20 MONDAY

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

25 SATURDAY

Craft fair, bake sale, lunch and raffle, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

26 SUNDAY

Sunday Afternoon Book Club, "Behind the Beautiful Forevers: Life, Death and Hope in a Mumbai Undercity," by Katherine Boo, Micawber's Books, 2:30 p.m.

27 MONDAY

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

30 THURSDAY

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

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

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 436 N. Roy St., 651-646-6549

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

John Rose Oval, 2661 Civic Center Drive, Roseville.

King of Kings Lutheran Church 2330 N. Dale St., Roseville

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

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

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

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

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

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

St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church, 2200 Hillside Ave., 651-603-8946

WARM show features local women artists

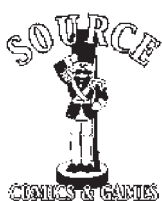
Beyond the Surface, the 2013-14 WARM Mentor Program Exhibit featuring a number of area artists, will be held Oct. 3-31 at the Grain Belt Bottling House, 79 13th Ave. N.E., Minneapolis.

An opening reception will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 18.

Artists exhibiting with the mentor program include Linda Ricklefs Baudry, Ann Meany and Marcia Soderman-Olson. Gallery hours are Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; and Sunday, noon-4 p.m.

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Neighbors

SAP Elementary seeks tutors

St. Anthony Park Elementary School, 2180 Knapp St., is seeking volunteer tutors to work with K-5 students in reading, writing or math. Tutors must be at least 16 years old, eager to build relationships with students and help them succeed, and be available for a minimum of one hour per week for the entire school year. No teaching experience is necessary. Training and teacher support will be provided. To volunteer, contact Becky Kallhoff, tutoring coordinator, at Rebecca.Kallhoff@spps.org or 651-744-2458.

Afterschool program needs tutors

Rediscover the joys of learning by volunteering with Project for Pride in Living (PPL) afterschool youth programs in St. Paul. PPL strives to empower students from low-income families to achieve success in school and in life through academic support and hands-on enrichment activities. Volunteers work with students on literacy, homework and relationship building.

Tutoring takes place on Tuesdays and Thursdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. at locations in Highland Park and the Selby/Dale neighborhoods. To apply, contact Anna Preus at anna.preus@ppl-inc.org or 612-455-5108. Learn more about PPL at www.ppl-inc.org.

YMCA campsWidjiwagan, du Nord fall garage sale starts Oct. 2

The annual fall garage sale for YMCA camps Widjiwagan and du Nord will be held Wednesday, Oct. 1, to Saturday, Oct. 4.

The sale is open 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday to Friday. The Saturday bag sale will be open from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. More than 250 families contribute good quality camping equipment, clothing, household items, toys, books, antiques, furniture, sports equipment and more to the sale. Admission is free, and all proceeds go to the YMCA camps. For more information, call 651-645-6605.

Hamline Midway Library events

St. Paul Public Library is offering a host of programs in October at the Hamline Midway Library, 1558 W. Minnehaha Ave.

Saint Paulitics, the library's ongoing election-year program series, will feature the Theater of Public Policy and the Star Tribune's Lori Sturdevant at Hamline Midway Library on Friday, Oct. 3, at 7 p.m. with an unscripted look at Minnesota politics through an improv comedy theater lens. The event will be like Meet the Press crossed with Saturday Night Live.

Hamline Midway will host additional improv programming in October. The Playground Players will perform Improv After Hours at 7 p.m. on Fridays, Oct. 10, 17 and 24.

All events are free and open to

the public. For more information, visit www.sppl.org or call 651-642-0293.

Crex Meadows topic of next Audubon Society meeting

Kristi Pupak, a Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources educator, will talk about Crex Meadows Wildlife Area history and management at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 9, at Fairview Community Center, 1910 W. County Road B, Roseville.

The free program is part of the St. Paul Audubon Society monthly meeting.

Crex Meadows is a 30,000-acre wildlife area containing wetlands, forests and brush prairies located just north of Grantsburg, Wis. It's part of the Northwest Wisconsin Pine Barrens. Established in 1947, Crex Meadows Wildlife Area is managed to provide opportunities for public hunting, trapping and other outdoor recreation while protecting the qualities of unique native communities and associated species. You can find out more about Crex Meadows at www.crexmeadows.org.

Harvest Fest at Maternity of Mary

Maternity of Mary-St. Andrew School will hold its annual Harvest Fest celebration from 6 to 10 p.m. Friday, Oct. 10, in Sirba Hall at the church, 1414 N. Dale St. More than 25 local vendors will serve appetizers, entrees, and desserts as well as beer and wine. Early bird tickets are \$25 each. Guests 21 years or older are welcome. Call 651-489-1459, or go to www.mmsaschool.org to find out more.

End of life is topic at local events

Holcomb-Henry-Boom-Purcell Funeral Home & Cremation Services, 536 N. Snelling Ave., will host a coffee hour for anyone interested in learning more about cremation, funeral services and more from 9 to 10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 18, at the funeral chapel. Call 651-646-2844 for more information.

On Saturday, Oct. 25, Pastor Ruth Sorenson-Prokosch of St. Timothy Lutheran Church, at Nevada and Victoria avenues in St. Paul, will host an information session "Planning for Our Last Season" from 9:15 to 11:30 a.m.

Barbara Hannah of Holcomb-Henry-Boom-Purcell, Janelle Calhoun of Thrivent and Charles Nelson of Chandler & Brown will talk about funerals and cremations, wills and trusts, powers of attorney, health care directives and more.

There will be time for the presenters to answer questions. Refreshments will be provided. Please RSVP to the church at sttims@usfamily.net or 651-489-0336.

Recycle your electronics

Recycle your unwanted or old electronics 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday,

Oct. 25, at the Church of Corpus Christi, 2131 Fairview Ave. N., Roseville. A senior high Girl Scout troop is hosting the Tech Dump as a fundraiser for an international trip.

The electronics will be collected by Tech Dump and any data on the items will be securely destroyed by the company, which is a licensed electronics recycler. You can dump your old computers, cell phones, electrical cords, hard drives, televisions and computer monitors. There will be a tax-deductible \$15 to \$45 fee for CRT recycling.

Call Tech Dump, 763-432-3117, for more details. Items that cannot be accepted are washers/dryers, water heaters, space heaters, dehumidifiers, stoves or refrigerators.

Luther Seminary to host 'Singing the Faith' hymn festival Oct. 26

On Oct. 26, Luther Seminary will hold its annual Singing the Faith hymn festival, a service of hymns and readings celebrating the Lutheran Reformation. This year's festival is titled "Singing the Faith: Readings from Luther's Catechism on the Lord's Prayer" and will feature the St. Olaf Choir.

Following the program, a traditional Norwegian smorgasbord with lutefisk, meatballs, side dishes and desserts will be served. Tickets for the smorgasbord are \$25.

The program will be held in the Chapel of the Incarnation in the Olson Campus Center on the Luther Seminary campus. Find out more about the event at www.luthersem.edu/reffest.

Used book sale at Roseville Library

The Friends of the Ramsey County Libraries is hosting a "Spooktacular" Used Book Sale Oct. 22-26 at Roseville Library, 2180 Hamline Avenue N.

Thousands of books, movies, talking books and CDs from all seven branches of Ramsey County Library, as well as private donations, will be sold. Most items sell for \$1 or less.

Books are presorted by genre in fiction, nonfiction, children and young adult categories to make shopping easier.

Sale hours are 3-6 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 22 for an exclusive "Friends Members-Only" pre-sale. A membership can be purchased for \$20 at the sale.

Public sale hours are 6-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 22; 10 a.m.-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 23; 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Oct. 24-25; and noon to 4:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 26. A \$3 Bag Sale will be held on Sunday.

Proceeds from the Friends book sales and used book stores benefit Ramsey County public libraries in Maplewood, Mounds View, New Brighton, North St. Paul, Roseville, Shoreview and White Bear Lake.

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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.*

Shana Buchanan

Shana Gail (née Lohse) Buchanan, 42, died unexpectedly in Minneapolis Aug. 31.

Shana was born July 12, 1972, to Thomas and Alison Lohse. Shana grew up in St. Anthony Park and attended St. Anthony Park Elementary School.

She graduated from St. Paul Central High School, received her bachelor's and master's degrees at the University of Minnesota, and taught elementary school in Minneapolis Public Schools.

She went on to receive her law degree at William Mitchell College of Law and practiced law in the Twin Cities.

She is survived by her 14-year-old son, Niko; parents, Thomas and Alison Lohse; brother, James Lohse; sister, Tara Lohse; nephews, Trey and Zoltan Lohse and Louis Lohse-Papillon; and niece, Alison Lohse.

Her funeral service was held at St. Mark's Cathedral, Minneapolis, Sept. 9. The family deeply appreciates the outpouring of prayers and support from friends and the community.

Memorials can be made payable to Memorial Fund/Niko's College Fund, P.O. Box 8156, St. Paul, MN 55108.

Gerhart Buehrer

Gerhart J. Buehrer, 89, died Aug. 13.

After his World War II Navy service, Gerhart earned a degree in

architecture from the Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago. He worked most of his career in Minneapolis, retiring from Setter, Leach & Lindstrom Architects in 1990.

He and Doris met and were married in 1950. After many moves, the family settled in the St. Anthony Park neighborhood in the mid-1960s.

He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Doris; his children: Joan, Bob (Joan Zerkovich), Gary Jr. (Debbie), Becky (John) Andrews and Barth (Michelle); four grandchildren; and his sister, Elizabeth Hiegel.

A gathering of family and friends was held Sept. 15, with interment at Fort Snelling National Cemetery.

Clark Lindsay Christlieb

Clark Lindsay Christlieb, 84, known to childhood friends and family as Lindsay, was a man who lived to make others laugh and enjoy life as much as he did. He died July 26. He bravely fought melanoma and set a courageous example for all to follow.

He was born Feb. 27, 1930, in St. Paul. He grew up on Grantham Street in St. Anthony Park and graduated in 1948 from Murray High, where he ran track, played football and was a member of the "Bucket Brigade" basketball team and student council.

Clark served in the U.S. Navy and graduated from the University of



Clark Lindsay Christlieb in 1948

Minnesota with a degree in 1956. He spent 30 years as one of Hollywood Vassarette's top salesmen, in Minnesota, the West Virginia-Kentucky-Ohio region, and Texas and adjacent states, after moving to Houston with his wife, Olga, and sons, Isaac and Frank, in 1961.

Clark was preceded in death by his parents, Frank Christlieb and Alma Anker Christlieb, and his wife. Survivors include two sons, Isaac (Phyllis) and Frank (Kay), both of Texas; four grandchildren; dear friend and business colleague Akemi Inks; and cousins, Diane Rossi, Carol Sweetland, Anita Branin and Sherry Schwartz and their families. Services were Aug. 1 at Oakland Cemetery in Hutchinson, Minn.

Peter Phelps, Jr.

Peter "Bowen" Phelps Jr., 55, of St. Paul, died Sept. 7 surrounded by family, following a courageous two-year struggle with brain cancer.

Bowen was a loving and devoted husband, father, son, brother, uncle and friend who had an infectious zest for life that made everyone's lives better. He coined phrases like, "It's a beautiful thing."

He is survived by his loving wife of 30 years, Nancy; sons, Jason, Keith and Anthony; parents, Peter and Saralee; siblings, Erin Phelps-Stark (David), Frank (Christine), Bill (Jennifer) and Louise Page (Ben).

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Sept. 11 at St. Cecilia's Catholic Church in St. Anthony Park, with interment at Roselawn Cemetery.

The family especially thanks Allina Hospice. Memorials preferred to the Angel Foundation.

Pauline Roth

Pauline F. (née Palermo) Roth, 91, lifelong resident of St. Paul, passed away peacefully at SunLight Senior Living on Sept. 6.

She was preceded in death by parents, Salvatore and Josephine Palermo; husband, Lawrence; daughter, Susan Martha; grandson, Geoffrey Thomson; brothers, Sam, Angelo and James; and sisters, Caroline and Antoinette. She is survived by daughters, Joan (James)

Thomson and Trish (Todd) Curtiss; son, Martin Roth (Jenny Zuehlke); four grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Sept. 11 at Maternity of Mary Catholic Church, with interment at Fort Snelling National Cemetery.

The family thanks the staff at SunLight Senior Living for their kind and loving care of Pauline in her three-and-a-half-year residence with them.

Ronald Sell

Ronald Sell, 91, died Aug. 12.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Arline. He is survived by his children, Steven (Ingrid), Douglas (Jane), Darline (Bruce), Rolf, Mark and David (Diane); 12 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and brother, Harold.

His funeral service was held Aug. 22 at St. Timothy Lutheran Church in Como Park, with interment at Elmhurst Cemetery.

The Rev. Albert Windham

The Rev. Albert M. Windham, 84, of Falcon Heights died Sept. 11.

Al pastored churches in Gardner, Mass.; Chicago, Ill.; and Roseville, and he also served as director of pastoral care at Midway Hospital.

He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Carol; children, Christine Sheetz and Mark (Dawn); two grandchildren; and sister, Margaret (Chuck) Bennett.

A service of remembrance was held Sept. 20 at Woodbury Baptist Church. Memorials preferred to the church.

Community Worship Directory

**❖ PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH—ELCA**

1744 Walnut St. (at Ione), Lauderdale, 651-644-5440

www.peacelauderdale.com

Sunday worship: 10 a.m.

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❖ 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.stceciliaspri.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

A Reconciling Congregation. All are welcome!

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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Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11 a.m.

Sunday School, Adult Forum and Coffee Hour 9:45 a.m.

Choir School Wednesdays (Babies to Grade 6)

Wednesday Community Meal 5-6:30 p.m. (freewill offering)

Web, Facebook, & Twitter: SAPLC

❖ ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Rev. Blair A. Pogue 2136 Carter at Chelmsford 651-645-3058

Sundays 9:15 a.m. Faith Formation for all ages

10:30 a.m. Worship with sermon and communion

Nursery care provided 9 a.m.-11:20 a.m.

7 p.m. Night Prayer with reflection and communion,

Dinner at 5:30 p.m.

Oct 5: Celebrating 125 years at St. Matthew's: 9:15 a.m. shared stories and photos, reception after the 10:30 a.m. service.

Blessing of the Animals, 4:30 p.m. in College Park

All are Welcome! www.stmatthewsmn.org

Keystone Senior Program offers meals, flu shots and much more

Keystone Senior Program at the Merriam Park Community Center, 2000 St. Anthony Ave., offers a variety of services to senior adults. Call 651-645-7424 to find out more about any of the services listed below.

Meals on Wheels are available to anyone in need of nutritious meals. You can receive a hot daily meal, fresh uncooked meal or frozen meals, five to seven days a week. The cost is based on your income.

AARP Smart Driver Refresher Classes will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 14, at the Merriam Park Community Center.

Flu shots will be available from 10 a.m. to noon Wednesday, Oct. 1, at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 1895 Laurel Ave.

Call with any questions or to register for events at 651-645-7424.

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



School News

The Bugle welcomes news about students and schools in the area. The deadline for the November issue is Wednesday, Oct. 8. Send your news to editor@parkbugle.org.

Avalon School

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

Volunteer as a 'community expert'

The public is welcome to attend 11th annual Senior Night at Avalon School at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 7, to hear more than 30 young adults present the topics for their senior projects, a graduation requirement at Avalon.

These projects will demonstrate at least 300 hours of dedicated, in-depth study around a topic of each student's choice. Neighbors are asked to consider serving as community experts on a student committee.

RSVP to this event by emailing Nora at nora@avalonschool.org or calling at 651-649-5495, ext. 207.

Chelsea Heights Elementary

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

New teachers at Chelsea

Chelsea Heights Elementary School welcomes several new teachers and

staff members this fall: kindergarten teacher Bridget Stewart, first-grade teacher Anna Yang, second-grade teacher Laura Erickson, fifth-grade teacher Julie MacGregor, cultural specialist Sean Stewart and social worker Jane Butterfoss.

Como Park Senior High

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

Join the Parent Academy

Como Park Senior High School (CPSHS) is recruiting parents for the fall session of Parent Academy. St. Paul Public Schools sponsors a free six-week program that is designed to empower parents to increase their skills and abilities to become active participants in their children's learning, which is especially important in the high school years. CPSHS's Parent Academy will meet on Monday nights starting Oct. 20. Transportation, childcare and a light supper will be provided. For more information call Sandy Kestner at 651-744-3997.

National Merit semifinalist!

Congratulations to CPSHS senior Ellen Purdy, who is Como's 2015 National Merit Scholarship

semifinalist. She qualified for this honor last year with her outstanding 2014 PSAT score. Ellen is in the top 16,000 out of 1.4 million students who took this exam and will now move onto the stages of becoming a National Merit finalist.

Learn about college financial information at Como Oct. 9

CPSHS will host a college financial information night from 6-7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 9, in the school library. This is a chance for students and families to become acquainted with and receive help on the Federal Financial Aid (FAFSA) form.

Homecoming 2014

The CPSHS community will celebrate homecoming Sept. 22-27. School groups, including the marching band and the football team, will march in a parade starting at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 27. The parade will start at the school and go through the Como Park neighborhood. Parents, neighbors and community members are invited to watch the parade and then follow join the school for a light picnic lunch, a powder puff football game and other assorted games. The Como Park Booster Club sponsors the parade. Fan buses will leave the

school at 1:15 p.m. to travel to Griffin Stadium at Central High School to cheer for the football team in its homecoming game against Patrick Henry High School of Minneapolis. The homecoming dance will be held in the school cafeteria from 7-10 p.m. that night.

Booster Club seeks members

The Como Park Booster Club is looking for CPSHS families and friends and local businesses to join the club and consider making a financial contribution to the organization, which supports music, arts, athletics and extracurricular clubs and activities at the school. Find out more by calling the school at 651-693-8800.

Teachers receive Ecolab grants

Four teachers received Ecolab grants to supplement their teaching this school year. The teachers and their projects are as follows: Kathryn Kahn, funding to purchase the book *Survival of the Sickest: The Surprising Connections between Disease and Longevity* and create lessons from material in the book; Elizabeth Luby, funding to purchase lab materials for the College in the Schools anatomy and physiology course to provide students with opportunities to

investigate and understand the functions of their own bodies; Jason McIntyre, funding to purchase used digital cameras and recycled printers and toner to enable an entire classroom to create class projects; and Donna Norberg, funding for materials to build an interactive learning prototype that involves flipping classroom lessons to learn difficult science concepts with students teaching each other.

St. Anthony Park Elementary

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

Thanks, Target

A huge thanks to St. Anthony Park families who dedicate their Target charges to the school: The school received a check for \$4,308.83 from Target on Sept. 4. The funds will be used to make sure that all of the school's classrooms have projectors, speakers and other equipment that enhances student learning, according to principal Ann Johnson.

Fall Festival is Oct. 24

The 19th annual Fall Festival will be held at 5:30-8 p.m., Friday, Oct. 24,

School News to 20

Science-focused middle school opens in Como Park

By Alex Lodner

The Academy for Sciences and Agriculture (AFSA) High School in Vadnais Heights has opened a middle school campus in the Como Park neighborhood.

The Minnesota Agricultural Education Leadership Council opened AFSA High School in 2001 with 39 students and six teachers in a rented space in Roseville. The school moved into its current facility in Vadnais Heights in 2005. Additional grades were slowly added, and soon the school was educating more than 300 students in grades 7 through 12 from more than 20 districts in Minnesota.

But families wanted more.

AFSA's mission to "engage students in academically rigorous, student-centered learning experiences and leadership opportunities within a science and agricultural context," along with its nontraditional approach to education, was appealing to families who desired the same experience for their younger children, said Becky Meyer, AFSA's director of education.

"We knew we had many families interested in a middle school, and it is also important to try and start a relationship with students sooner in their schooling and have longer contact with them to ensure their success," she explained. "But it's a very lengthy process to add grades."

In March, the school's board

approved the addition of grades 5 and 6, and this fall, AFSA opened a middle school that will eventually serve grades 5 through 8.

The new school is temporarily housed in the former school building at the Church of the Holy Childhood at 1435 Midway Parkway. The board is searching for a permanent location, which it hopes will be in the Como area, Meyer said.

"We love Como," she said. "There are so many potential partnerships in the area for our students, especially the University of Minnesota-St. Paul Campus."

AFSA is a tuition-free, public charter school operating under the authorization of the Audubon Center of the North Woods. It offers core curriculum that meets or exceeds state standards and adheres to state graduation requirements. As a science- and agriculture-focused school, AFSA also offers courses in plant, food, animal and environmental sciences and engineering. Students in the lower grades explore a range of science-focused classes as their chosen electives, while the high school students choose between plant science, food science or animal science to specialize in.

"We are not teaching farming," emphasized John Gawarecki, AFSA's middle school director, who has been the high school chemistry and physics teacher for the past 10 years. "Minnesota has many large,

successful companies [that] are interested in employees with a deep understanding of a variety of science disciplines and possess a strong sense of agriculture literacy."

Agriculture accounts for 20 percent of jobs in the United States, and AFSA offers its students a wide breadth of science and agriculture understanding that will serve them well in today's economy, said Gawarecki. Possible science-based careers range from veterinarians, ecologists, engineers and nutritionists to architects, marketing specialists, specialized journalists, sales representatives and attorneys.

AFSA incorporates team, project-based and hands-on learning into the curriculum.

"Our students graduate with an understanding of how important it is to cooperate with their colleagues and learn from each other, as well as from real-life experiences," said Meyer.

Those real-life experiences often come in the form of off-site excursions and international trips. Students from the high school have visited Costa Rica and Ireland. Twice a year, AFSA closes the school for a week and offers students a variety of special projects and trips, including fishing outings and visits to the International Wolf Center in Ely and area museums. Students often visit the U or some of AFSA's corporate partners, such as General Mills or Cargill, for an immersive experience



Olin Jensen and George Cave plant seeds during a project at the Academy for Sciences and Agriculture Middle School. *Photo by Jessica Hilmanowski*

in science and agriculture.

"We want our students to get their hands dirty, sometimes literally," Gawarecki said. "Hands-on, real-life experience is just as valuable as classroom learning, sometimes more so."

All AFSA students are automatic members of the AFSA FFA chapter and have a range of activities, workshops and clubs available to them, including Youth in Government, National Honor Society, FIRST Robotics, athletics and drama. Students are also encouraged to participate in competitions, such as food science, communications, small animal and agriculture sales events.

While AFSA offers all the liberal arts classes required by state standards, potential students should have a strong interest in science and agriculture.

"Students here are dedicated to science and agriculture," Gawarecki said. "We are very proud of what we offer our students, but this may not be the place for the next Michael Jordan. We hope that parents consider AFSA as well as what is the best fit for their children."

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



CPHS Cougar Sports

Eric Erickson will highlight a Como Park Senior High School athletic team each month in the Bugle throughout the school year.

Como girls' volleyball set to defend conference crown

By Eric Erickson

The Como Park Senior High School girls' volleyball team has returned to the court for the 2014 season with high expectations. After going undefeated in the St. Paul City Conference last season, the team is embracing the challenge and enjoying the work of defending the city championship.

The 2013 win was the Cougars' first since 1994, but that championship gap can be misleading. Como has historically produced competitive teams, including second-place conference finishes in 2011 and 2012. Last

season's jump to the top spot now serves as a motivator to put in the work again.

Second-year head coach Kim Smisek pointed out that she has a committed core of returning players who are leading the charge. Seven of the varsity team's 10 full-time players are back with experience. Leadership is evident at many levels on the team but is spearheaded by senior captain Jenna Krivit and junior captains Bekah Hausman and Delilah Wolf.

Krivit is a middle blocker while Hausman and Wolf are both setters. Collectively the captains make up half of the starting line-up, but Smisek was quick to add they bring

much more to the team than just athletic talents of passing, setting and hitting.

"They each bring a level of intensity that any coach would long for," Smisek said. "They are our definite leaders both on and off the court."

Other key players to watch for are junior Emily LaCroix-Dalluhn as a middle blocker and junior Olivia Berven who is an outside hitter/defensive specialist. "These players are both incredibly talented all-around, and they play smart volleyball," said Smisek.

The varsity roster also features returning letter-winners Sinead O'Duffy, a junior who starts as the libero (defensive specialist), and sophomore Elianna Wiersma. Newcomers to the varsity team this season include senior Day Day Naw and sophomores Rachel Love and Desha Lynch, all of whom excelled on the junior varsity team a year ago.

Smisek admitted being tough on her team, pushing them to maximize their opportunity this season, and, Krivit added, "not waste the potential we have." With additional leadership from assistant coach Ashley Jones, who has been with the program for three years and is described as the "chill coach" by Hausman, the girls were on the right path to repeating the conference championship as of press time.

Under coaching styles that Smisek said, "balance each other out quite nicely" the team started practicing Aug. 11. A month into the season they had an overall record of 4 wins and 3 losses that included close matches against top level nonconference competition, but



Como Park Cougars compete against the Washington Eagles on Sept. 4. Como players pictured from left are Elianna Wiersma, Jenna Krivit, Rachel Love and Bekah Hausman. *Photo by Mike Krivit*

were undefeated in the conference with wins over Central, Washington and Humboldt.

Wolf suggested that the team is aware of the need to win other upcoming nonconference matches in addition to the conference contests "to improve our seeding for the section tournament and advance to a further level."

This team is aware of the big picture, but they are focused on what's in front of them and having fun representing their school community.

At a recent home match on Como's newly refurbished gym floor, the bleachers were scattered with

Como parents and loyal, energetic student fans who cheered for every Como point and supported the girls with shouts of encouragement. Asked about the Como fans, Krivit said, "It feels good to have the support of our friends."

With hard-working talent, driven leadership and moral support on their side, the Como volleyball team is setting up another special season.

Eric Erickson is a social studies teacher at Como Park Senior High School. He has coached a variety of school and youth sports teams in St. Paul over the last 20 years.

Jennings Community Learning Center expands and remodels

By Alex Lodner

There is a sort of a rebirth happening at the Jennings Community Learning Center (JCLC), located at 2455 University Ave. W., just east of Highway 280.

After 14 years of combining academics with travel opportunities for its students, the school has remodeled to better accommodate its unique learning structure. JCLC is a tuition-free charter school serving grades 7 through 12. The school adheres to all Minnesota graduation standards, but what makes it unique is its self-directed, project-based learning model, said director Bill Zimniewicz. Students at JCLC learn in mixed-age groups facilitated by advisers. Zimniewicz believes this format fosters students' desire to learn

and create, unlike more traditional school settings that can at times lose sight of students' individual needs and learning styles.

"Our advisers know each and every student," Zimniewicz said. "We want to see them grow to their full potential. We want to know what they want to learn about."

JCLC was established in 1998 by Wayne Jennings, a longtime proponent of learning through life experience. Jennings' history of searching for nontraditional solutions to student learning needs has included founding the St. Paul Public Schools' (SPPS) Open School (now Open World Learning Community) in 1971, along with several other charter schools. He also assisted in the design and implementation of several nontraditional schools,

including SPPS' EXPO Magnet Middle School.

Zimniewicz is passionately dedicated to his students. "The current traditional structure doesn't work for every student," he said. "We want to offer an environment where students are cared about in a way they cannot be in larger classrooms."

Keeping group sizes at 18 students goes a long way toward fostering meaningful relationships between advisers and students, he said. "Our kids can learn by doing; they learn through experience. We can do that because they have the attention of the adviser," said Zimniewicz.

Another of the ways that JCLC sets itself apart from traditional

Jennings to 20



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Contact editor@parkbugle.org or call 651-646-5369 for more information.



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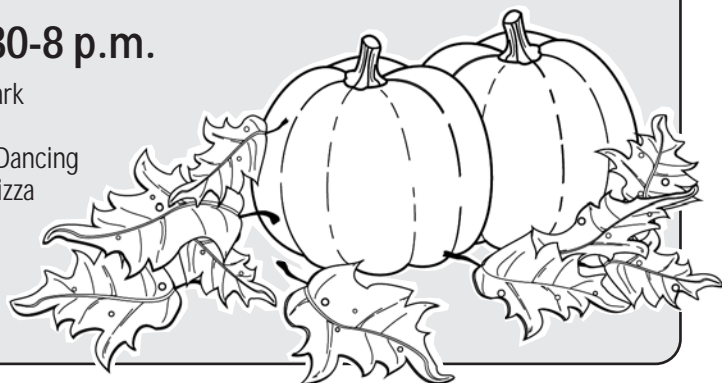
St. Anthony Park Elementary School's 19th

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School News from 17

at the school. The annual fundraiser is a fun affair with live music for dancing from Light of the Moon, a silent auction, book fair, bake sale, crafts and activities, and food. Admission is free, and all are welcome. All proceeds go toward enrichment programs at the school.

Jennings from 18

schools is by offering travel study programs to a select group of students each year. Groups have traveled to New York, New Orleans and Hawaii, as well as to a variety of locations in the Midwest.

"We want kids to love learning," Zimniewicz said. "They get to see the places they are reading and learning about." But Zimniewicz is no pushover. Students have to prove they are worthy of such unique opportunities.

"We don't put up with violence, drugs, disrespect," he said. "We've had a couple of students who were all set to go on a trip and then we had some behavioral issue with them. They didn't get to go on that trip. I told them, 'Work on the problem; hopefully you'll go next year.'"

Students are held to a high standard because Zimniewicz believes they can reach it, he said. His tough love philosophy seems to work.

The school anticipated that its attendance would increase

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significantly this fall, which led to the rethinking of the school's layout.

The remodeled space is bright and colorful and includes fully enclosed classrooms instead of the large cubicles the students used to gather in. The newly configured common space now includes a stage for presentations and an area for dining. The kitchen has been updated as well, and the school participates in the National School Lunch Program, which offers free or reduced-fee lunches for eligible students.

Each classroom has a desktop computer for each student and boasts brightly painted desks that the students built themselves. No one is more proud than Zimniewicz.

"The kids made these," Zimniewicz said. "They are not just learning math and science here, they are learning about pride and ownership in their work and in themselves. We are preparing them for a lifetime of learning."

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

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