Bee Lab breaks ground at University of Minnesota

By Anne Holzman

Thanks to a combination of state and private funding, a long-sought Bee and Pollinator Research Lab is taking shape on the University of Minnesota’s St. Paul campus. A second new facility at the University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum in Chaska will serve as a showcase for the bee labs’ work.

Construction will begin this fall on the 10,500-square-foot facility, which will pull together the university’s current bee-related projects onto a single site and add staff and lab capacity for added research and collaborations with other institutions. The new building will have space and equipment for labs, honey extraction, observation hive space, offices and equipment space.

In an article written for “Bee Lines,” a Minnesota State Fair publication for the fair’s bee exhibit, entomology professor Moralia Spivak wrote that in addition to the research capacity, the lab “will provide space for our growing Bee Squad to more effectively mentor urban beekeepers and expand their programming.”

The site for the new lab is on the north end of the campus, off Gorton Avenue, near the existing horticulture demonstration garden.

Landscaping around the building will demonstrate bee-friendly approaches, as well as “providing a beautiful public face for the campus and the state of Minnesota,” according to Spivak. She predicts the building “will serve as an example of creating sustainable spaces.”

A new 10,500-square foot laboratory on Gorton Avenue will consolidate lab space, honey extraction, observation hive space, offices and equipment space.
Nonprofit developer to purchase Como by the Lake senior complex

Residents at Como by the Lake, 901 E. Como Blvd., got some good news last week: The owners of the complex, which houses mostly elderly and disabled residents under a Section 8 contract, had accepted a bid from Aeon, a Minneapolis-based affordable housing management company.

Aeon director Alan Arthur had expected the final purchase agreement to be signed by Friday, Aug. 21, just as the Park Bugle went to press.

Residents “are really happy to have secure housing,” Arthur said, and Aeon plans to “preserve the existing Section 8 housing” at the building. The purchase should be completed by Dec. 1, Arthur said.

In May, residents received letters from building’s owner, Como Lake Limited Partnership of Maple Grove, informing them they would no longer be accepting Section 8 subsidies and were planning to drop its designation as a senior living complex. The owners had planned to renovate the building and put the apartments on the open market.

Fifty-seven of the 99 units in the 30-year-old building had been under a Section 8 contract, had accepted a bid from Aeon, a Minneapolis-based affordable housing management company.

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Fifty-seven of the 99 units in the 30-year-old building had been under a Section 8 contract. St. Paul City Council member Amy Brendmoen—who sent a letter of support to the building’s owners—thought about talking about this issue.

Aeon is also in the process of developing a housing complex at University and Vandalia avenues in St. Anthony Park that will have an affordability component. “We don’t do anything that doesn’t have a significant chunk of affordability to it,” Arthur said. —Kristal Leebrick

Neighborhood Cleanup is Sept. 26

The annual neighborhood cleanup will be held at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds on Saturday, Sept. 26, 8 a.m.–1 p.m.

St. Paul residents can bring both reusable items and junk for disposal to the cleanup for a fee. Cars will be charged $10 per load; pickups and vans will be charged $15-20. There are separate fees for electronics and appliances, as well as fees for dropping off furniture and mattresses and boxed springs.

The cleanup will be held at the northeast corner of the fairgrounds just off Larpenteur Avenue and west of Snelling Avenue. The District 10 Como Community Council is organizing the cleanup. For more information, call 651-644-3889 or go to www.district10comopark.org.

Girl Scouts will host Roseville Tech Dump

Roseville Girl Scout Troop 51629 will host a Tech Dump on Saturday, Sept. 12, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Cub Foods Pavilion, 1201 W. Larpenteur Ave.

Area residents can bring old and unwanted electronics to be recycled. Accepted items include cords, remote controls, televisions, computers, monitors, laptops, gaming systems, cellular phones and most anything with a battery or cord. Large appliances will not be accepted.

For more information, go to TechDump.org/Troop 51629.

All-SAP sale is Sept. 19

The St. Anthony Park neighborhood garage sale will be held Saturday, Sept. 19, from 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

Residents can register their sales by filling out the form found at www.sappc.org/sap-garagesale/ and submitting it with $15 to St. Anthony Park Community Council, 890 Cromwell Ave., St. Paul, MN 55114, by Tuesday, Sept. 15.

Call Rich Nelson at 651-641-1172 for more information. Volunteers are needed to help with this event.
Luther Seminary, Ecumen explore senior housing development here

By Kristal Leebrick

Luther Seminary has been exploring redevelopment on its campus to meet the institution’s future needs, M. Morrow said. In 2012, the seminary reported a $4 million budget deficit. Since then, Luther has cut staff, sold the Sandgarden and Burnsville apartment buildings on Eustis Street, and has recently rented space to Augsburg College to house Augsburg’s physician assistant studies program. That will bring up to 60 students to the Luther campus each semester.

The campus needs to be refigured to meet the size of the current student body, M. Morrow said. The 600-student school has become less of a residential campus than in the past. Ecumen, a 150-year-old nonprofit with roots in the Lutheran Church, once concentrated its work on nursing homes in rural Minnnesota. In the last decade, the nonprofit has expanded its focus to senior housing outside of nursing homes. Matt M. Nelson, Ecumen’s director of business development, said the company is focusing on urban walkable communities. He gives the example of Ecumen’s $110 million Abitain Mill City project in downtown Minneapolis, which broke ground in May.

The five-story senior living project will have 151 rental units and include options for independent living and memory care. Residents will be in walking distance to the river, to the Guthrie Theatre, Gold Medal Park, the Mill City Farmers Market, the light rail and the new Vikings stadium. It is scheduled to open in fall 2016. The St. Anthony Park project would potentially have 293 living units on an unspecified area of land. Lyngblosten, a senior living complex on Almond Avenue in Como Park, sits on 6 acres and includes a 105-unit HUD-subsidized low-income apartment building, a 60-unit market-rate building and a nursing home with 237 residents.

Representatives from Luther Seminary and Ecumen will attend the Oct. 1 District 12 Land Use Committee meeting to give updates on the project. The committee meets at 7 p.m. at South St. Anthony Recreation Center, 890 Cromwell Ave. All District 12 committee and board meetings are open to the public.

Bee lab from 1

the St. Paul campus,” Spivak wrote. In conjunction with building the new lab, the university has welcomed Dan Cariveau to the entomology staff. Cariveau specializes in native bees and their role in ecosystems. His past research includes studying the effectiveness of conservation efforts and the interaction of bees with crop pests.

Spivak, who will continue leading research on honeybees, said there are more than 425 species of native bees in Minnesota. The new facility will allow consolidated research in the many types of bees and their roles in their environments.

“There are other bee research labs across the nation,” Spivak wrote. “But only one that combines honey bee and native bee studies at (the University of California-D)avis. So in that regard, our labs (ours and UC-Davis) are unique in the nation.”

Like its research, the department’s public outreach involves both honeybees and wild bees. Spivak and Cariveau act as mentors and instructors for diverse groups including farmers, military veterans and gardeners who want to make their lawns more friendly to bees. Their concerns include pest control, pollination, urban and rural environments, and sustainable agriculture.

Spivak noted that the lab’s research reaches beyond the local landscape. “We have lots of international collaborations and graduate students,” she wrote, “but Dan [Cariveau] will bring in new collaborations and students.”

While public access to the bee lab will be limited to enjoying the grounds around it, Spivak said, the department’s expansion also includes a new public outreach project at the University of Minnesota’s arboretum in the western suburb of Chaska.

“For direct public interaction,” Spivak wrote, “we hope people will visit the Tashjian Bee and Pollinator Discovery Center, which is designed to educate and awe the public, from adults to school-aged kids, about bees and pollinators.”

Construction of the Bee and Pollinator Discovery Center, 890 Cromwell Ave. All District 12 committee and board meetings are open to the public.

The grounds surrounding the bee lab will include demonstration gardens, a rain garden, a bee nesting wall, a bee-friendly lawn, a research apiary and a hobby apiary.

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It's worth reiterating our readers that the Park Bugle is a nonprofit newspaper published by Park Press Inc., a board of volunteers from the community who serve. Board members generally commit to three-year terms and serve on various committees that oversee the general operations of the paper.

September brings changes to Park Press. Two board members—Jan Sadewig and Ann Fendsort of St. Anthony Park—both of whom spent the last six years lending their expertise to help navigate the Bugle through some tough economic times, have ended their terms. Lynn Abrahamson of Lauderdale, the current board president, will stay on the board in an advisory capacity through December. We thank these three board members for their time and immense talents.

Park Press welcomes four new board members who will take the helm this month. They are Gabrielle Lawrence of St. Anthony Park, Amy Schoch of Como Park, Elizabeth Danielson of Falcon Heights and Deborah Coleman, who works with the MN Intraeus Literacy Council in St. Anthony Park.

This paper owes its longevity to the dozens of volunteers who have governed the operations of the Bugle since its inception in 1974 and the全体员工 to a nonprofit staff of 10.

Welcome to our new board members.

**LETTERS**

City of St. Paul should divest from fossil fuel companies

Because we are living in a time of unprecedented threat by climate change, more symmetric and stronger social movements are essential to address this crisis.

Knowing what we know about climate change, the City of St. Paul and Mayor Chris Coleman have the opportunity and obligation to lead in reducing carbon emissions. Part of that responsibility includes using our institutional voice to add momentum to the growing fossil fuel divestment movement, a movement that is achieving tangible change.

Thus, a request was made to St. Paul Council Member Amy Brendenbush to consider introducing a resolution similar to the one that was recently (and overwhelmingly) passed in Minnapols to support the global fossil fuel divestment movement by banning the city from making investments in fossil fuels.

Despite the fact that Brendemthun and Council President Russ Stark have offered their support, Mayor Coleman has steadfastly eliminated the chance that either one would call on the state and other institutions to consider divestment from fossil fuels.

Let's demand that Mayor Coleman stand by his words with action. Please call him today at 651-266-8510 and ask that he support the effort to pass a fossil fuel divestment resolution in St. Paul.

Kathryn Schneider

Fossil Free St. Paul

Fossil Free St. Paul is a group of St. Paul residents working to get a city council resolution passed to support the fossil fuel divestment movement.
Borromeo String Quartet opens 2015-16 Music in the Park Series

The Schubert Club’s Music in the Park Series opens its 2015-16 season with a concert by the Borromeo String Quartet and violist Kim Kashkashian on Sunday, Sept. 27, at St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ, 2129 Commonwealth Ave. S.W., St. Paul.

Celebrating its 25th anniversary, the Boston-based Borromeo String Quartet—“a fearless ensemble who appear to savoir every sonic and atmospheric challenge” (Gramophone)—has performed a vast repertoire worldwide and collaborated with many of today’s outstanding composers and instrumentalists.

Faculty ensemble-in-residence at the New England Conservatory of Music for 22 years, the quartet works extensively with the Library of Congress, Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center and Boston’s Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum. Making their Twin Cities debut, the Borromeo will perform Beethoven’s String Quintet, Opus 161, and “Arizona” from String Quartet No. 4 by Gunther Schuller.

The quartet will be joined by violist Kim Kashkashian in the “String Quartet in E-flat major” by Antonin Dvorak, who wrote the work in 1893 while living in Spillville, Iowa. Winner of the 2012 Grammy, Kashkashian has been called the pre-eminent viola player of our time, celebrated as a soloist and chamber musician on an instrument not typically associated with stardom.

No stranger to Music in the Park Series, Kashkashian has appeared on the series with pianists Lydia Motobuchi and Yeесun Kim.

in the Park Series will bring the Borromeo String Quartet to perform for students at St. Anthony Park Elementary School and for residents and their families at St. Anthony Park H ome on Monday, Sept. 28.

The Sept. 27 performance begins at 4 p.m. A preconcert conversation will begin at the church at 3 p.m.

You can buy tickets by calling the Schubert Club box office at 651-292-3268 or go to Schubert.org and click on “Tickets.”

SAP garden club invites public to attend monthly programs

The St. Anthony Park Garden Club thanks the community for contributing to the outstanding success of the club’s June plant sale and the July garden tour.

The club is welcoming to attend club meetings, which will resume in September. No gardening experience is necessary and you do not have to live in the St. Anthony Park neighborhood to attend or become a member.

This active 80-member organization exists to enrich the community with programs, scholarships, public flower gardens, plant sales and garden tours.

The next meeting, which will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 1, will feature the program “Wild Edibles and Foraging,” presented by Deb Gallup, a naturalist, forager and Ramsey County Master Gardener. M etings are held the first Tuesday of the month at St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church Fellowship Hall, 2136 Carter Ave. Programs begin at 7:30 p.m. and are presented by a business meeting at 6:30 p.m. and a social time at 7 p.m.

Annual individual memberships are $17. Dual or family memberships are $25, and student memberships are $5.

For more information, contact sapgardenclub@comcast.net or verena.larson@comcast.net. You can “Like” the club on Facebook, facebook.com/SAPGardenClub.

Commentary from 4

If you are white and would you like to join SURJ MN (Showing Up for Racial Justice-Minnesota), it is an excellent resource specific to white individuals. It is also an excellent community racial justice book club? Any other ideas? You can reach me at annagambucci@yahoo.com.

If you are interested in learning and networking in predominantly white neighborhoods in the metro area. Would you like one? Or do you want to form a community racial justice book club? Any other ideas? You can reach me at annagambucci@yahoo.com.

If you feel ready step into the Black Lives Matter movement and be a part of the effort to end systemic racism, SURJ MN will be distributing Black Lives Matter yard signs to interested neighbors in predominantly white neighborhoods in the metro area. Would you like one? Or do you want to form a Black Lives Matter yard sign distribution team? Any other ideas? You can reach me at annagambucci@yahoo.com.
Ye Old Mill marks 100 years at the fair

By Alex Lodner

When Jim Keenan’s great-grandfather built Ye Old Mill with the help of the Philadelphia Toboggan Co. 100 years ago, he probably didn’t know he was building a legacy. But five generations later, the ride is as popular with Minnesota State Fair visitors as it was back in 1915.

The ride is one of, if not the, oldest rides designed by the company still in operation in the United States. “It is definitely the oldest Tunnel of Love operated by the same family,” Keenan said proudly, standing on the grassy area behind the ride earlier this summer.

Few things have changed since that first ride in 1915. Some of the vignettes have been updated over the years and a new scene or two have been added to enhance the ride experience. But Keenan, fourth-generation operator of the ride, quickly points out that even when the scenes are tweaked or improved, he keeps the old gnomes and tiny statues that folks have grown to love.

“There are some elves that have been in there since the ’50s,” he said. “If we change anything, we always keep those little guys in there. People love the tradition of it.”

Perhaps most impressive is the fact that the original 40-horse electric 1911 engine still spins the paddlewheel that gently propels the handmade boats on the 971-foot ride.

“The engine was built to run 365 days a year, 24 hours a day for years,” Keenan explained. “We were told we have another 80 years on that thing, at least.”

There are 11 boats that each hold four adults for the approximately 4-minute ride. In most parts of the tunnel, riders float in complete darkness.

“You can’t see your hand in front of your face,” Keenan said. Hence the Tunnel of Love moniker, evidently.

Keenan and his three brothers grew up working the ride during the fair, selling tickets, assisting riders in and out of the wobbly boats, and learning to maintain the mechanics. His brothers have since moved away, but they all come back to work the ride for the duration of the fair.

Starting in April, Keenan takes two days a week off from his mental health practice and, along with his father, John, and his young son, begins the tedious work of bringing the ride back to life after a long winter’s slumber.

Will the next generation pick up the torch? Keenan hopes so. He wants the ride to live on for his children to enjoy, even if they choose not to work it the way he and his brothers had.

“I would hope that this continues, but we are always nervous about it. We all have year-to-year contracts here at the fair,” he explained. “You always wonder, does the fair see it and love it like we do?”

For the 100-year celebration, the fair is allowing Ye Old Mill to sell t-shirts commemorating the event. A few news organizations will be onsite to highlight the anniversary, and there may be a simple opening day ceremony. Other than that, the family does not plan any elaborate festivities.

“We’ve asked the governor to ceremoniously declare Sept. 6 ‘Ye Old Mill Day,’ but other than that, we just sail on in to it,” Keenan said.

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New fair foods range from sweet to sriracha

By Alex Lodner

Every year, the Minnesota State Fair adds an exciting list of new foods to its already enticing roster. New food items for the 2015 fair include items ranging from the exotic to the classic. Here are just a few examples:

Wine-Fried Kalettes
It’s practically health food! At Minnesota Wine Country, kalettes, a hybrid of kale and Brussels sprouts, are dipped in batter, fried in wine (red wine is chock-full of antioxidants, you know) and served with sweet Thai chili sauce.

Sriracha Balls
So much sriracha, so little time. At Boulevard Grill, choose from a concoction of shredded chicken, corn, tomatoes, egg and sriracha, or sriracha cream cheese with corn, tomatoes and egg, all rolled into balls and deep fried.

Wine-Fried Kalettes
Or try this kooky hot dog, served on a sriracha cream cheese-smothered bun, topped with bacon bits and drizzled with sriracha sauce at Snack H.ouse.
Fair foods from 6

One man’s dream: his name on a State Fair bench

By Alex Lodner

My family and I are huge fans of the Minnesota State Fair, which runs Aug. 27-Sept. 1. You can blindfold me in any corner of the fairgrounds and I will still be able to tell you where the nearest Pronto Pup booth is. My daughter and I go weekdays, often with friends in tow who rely on our expertise to steer them through the throngs of visitors in search of the cleanest restroom. We are such big fans that we are members of the Minnesota State Fair Foundation.

The foundation, a nonprofit organization founded in 2002 to support and enrich the fair and to preserve the history of the Minnesota Great Get-Together, raises funds partially through its Friends of the Fair program. The Friends of the Fair program has annual membership levels ranging from $25 to $2,500, each with its own set of rewards and benefits. All levels of the program receive aFriend of the Fair ribbon and pin, a free Blue Ribbon Bargain Book, discounts at the State FairWear gift shops and access to the J.V. Bailey House during the fair. The Bailey House, a majestic yellow farm house on the corner on Cooper Street and Judson Avenue, houses the foundation offices year-round, but during the fair donors and Friends of the Fair can stop by for ice cold water, coffee and treats, and enjoy an air-conditioned respite from the crowds. In addition, Friends of the Fair and other donors are invited to Taste of the Fair one week prior to opening day. Taste of the Fair attendees enjoy food and beverages from new vendors as well as iconic fair favorites, games from the Midway and live music. Ravelers even get free rides on the Spiny the Space Tower so they can spot their house before anyone else.

Some membership levels include free admission tickets to the fair and preferred access to seating at Grandstand shows. Higher level memberships include personalized recognition on bricks, benches or even tables on the fairgrounds.

High on my husband’s bucket list is his own personalized State Fair bench. He jokes that having his name engraved on the back of a bench means he can evict anyone seated on it and use it at his discretion. He is wrong, of course. The benches are available to any and all fairgoers. But who am I to take away his dream?

Alex Lodner is a freelance writer who lives in the Como Park neighborhood. This week, you can find her somewhere at the fairgrounds staring frantically throughout the crowd for her seat at the Space Tower so she can spot her house before anyone else.

Friend of the Fair ribbon and pin, a free Blue Ribbon Bargain Book, discounts at the State FairWear gift shops and access to the J.V. Bailey House during the fair. The Bailey House, a majestic yellow farm house on the corner on Cooper Street and Judson Avenue, houses the foundation offices year-round, but during the fair donors and Friends of the Fair can stop by for ice cold water, coffee and treats, and enjoy an air-conditioned respite from the crowds.

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Fair foods from 6

Tikka on a Stikka
The Taste of Midtown Global Market booth at International Bazaar will host Hot Indian, a popular food truck found around the metro, Aug. 27-Sept. 1. One of its offerings, Tikka on a Stikka, is a serving of chicken marinated in Indian spices and yogurt, char-grilled and smothered in tikka sauce.

Hot Tail
From Sept. 2 to 7, Rabbit Hole will take over the Taste of Midtown Market booth and offer what may be the most adventurous dish at the fair: roasted pig tail coated in a scallion ginger sauce.

Chilled Bread Pudding
Settle into one of the Blue Moon Dine-In Theatre’s funky chairs made from old car seats and enjoy this year’s addition to their quirky menu: chilled custard bread pudding served with a warm glaze and a wide choice of crunchy “Moon Gravel” condiments.

Saras Tasty Pies
One of the new vendors for 2015, Saras will feature five varieties of hand pies, including State Fair Rhubarb Blue Hundy Do, a pie exclusively available at the State Fair. The tiny pie is filled with a blend of strawberries, rhubarb and blueberries, baked with Hundy Do Wheat Beer and topped with a Hundy Do Tippy Topping.

Grandma D’sb Snicker Bar Salad
The Blue Barn, located at West End Market, is rolling out this over-the-top dessert this year: chopped Snickers bars and Grammy Smith apples, tossed in vanilla pudding with whipped cream and drizzled with chocolate sauce.

JonnyPops
JonnyPops was started in honor of the vendor’s friend Jonathan, who died of a drug overdose. JonnyPops donates a portion of its proceeds to the Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation. The newest treat is the Chocolate-Dipped Cherry On-a-Stick, made with fresh tart cherries and cream, dipped in dark chocolate and served on a spoon, inspired by the iconic Spoonbridge and Cherry sculpture at the Walker Art Center.
Join us. We’d love to have you. We will reward you. We will use force.” A fourth voice whispers warnings to the viewers. “Be careful.”

Claussen had stored the work in her garage before moving it out to her yard. It’s a good conversation piece when neighbors stop to look, she said. “Modern Monoliths” examines the borders between public and private space, Claussen says. Eventually the artist would like to move the work to a more permanent place, out of her private yard and into a public arena.

You can find out more at her website, www.barbaraclaussen.com.

Dublin calling

Not exactly across the pond, but just down the road from “Modern Monoliths” another telephone booth has sprouted. Carol Mulroy’s bright green Irish “telefon” booth on Gibbs Avenue in St. Anthony Park was a community project that involved many neighbors.

The brainchild of Mulroy’s friend Michael Cunningham of Falcon Heights, the booth and the landscaping surrounding it included the work of Ram and Devi Rana (Ram is a stonemason) and master gardener Jeanne St. Clair.

The project began after a large pine came down in Mulroy’s yard. She had mentioned to Cunningham that she had a large empty space in her yard to fill.

Cunningham came up with plans for the booth, which has a bench inside and books, things that could encourage neighborhood children and adults to sit inside and read. The booth is made from salvaged materials, including four French doors. Cunningham had help from his brother, along with Ram Rana and Rana’s father and four brothers, in setting up the booth in the yard. The Rana family then installed a winding stone path leading to the booth.

M ulroy says the booth is indeed a conversation piece and a great way to meet neighbors.

Above, A detail of Quentin Nguyen’s hanging garden: 108 2-liter 7-Up bottles strung on his backyard fence along Lexington Avenue, each filled with an edible plant. And no, he did not drink all the 7-Up. The bottles were donated.

Above right, Carol Mulroy (second from right) and her neighbors pose with the Irish “telefon” booth in her front yard in St. Anthony Park. With her are Ram and Devi Rana (left) and Jeanne St. Clair (far right), all of whom helped her with the project. Photos by Kristal Leibrick

Barbara Claussen (above) stands amid her “Modern Monoliths,” seven red telephone booths tucked into her wooded front yard in Lauderdale. Photo by Lori Hamilton

Music in the Park Series

Opening Concert
2015-2016 Season

Borromeo String Quartet
and Kim Kashkashian, viola

Sunday, September 27 • 4 PM
Pre-concert talk 3 PM • St Anthony Park UCC
schubert.org • 651.292.3268
Limited ticket availability
Hampden Park Co-op was used for the filming of the movie “Wilson” on July 30. The crew set up shop early in the day and filmed at Hampden Park across the street in the afternoon. At night, the inside of the store was used for a scene from the movie.

Above, the film crew covers windows and gets the lighting ready as the scene will appear to be happening during the day. At left, chairs were lined up for the actors, producers and other members of the crew.

Photos by Kristal Leebrick

An almost-full moon and a few stars were shining on Hampden Park Co-op July 30, as a film crew used the food co-op for a scene in the movie “Wilson.” Crews have been filming the movie, starring Woody Harrelson and Laura Dern, throughout the Twin Cities this summer.

On July 30, trucks, cameras and a lot of people wearing headsets descended upon Raymond Avenue and Hampden Park, which was used in the filming. The co-op closed two hours early that Thursday to accommodate the crew, which rumor has it, ate supper at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, just a mile-and-a-half away on Como Avenue.

The Bugle stayed late into the night to try to catch a photo of one of the stars, but not late enough. Luckily, we had a stringer: 14-year-old Logan Chelmo, a budding filmmaker from Shakopee, who stayed until his parents could get a shot of him with Harrelson (below). (Thanks, Logan!)

Woody Harrelson poses for a photo with Logan Chelmo at the filming of the movie “Wilson.” Photo by Clayton Chelmo

Once in a blue moon the stars come out

Wooden bridge closed, so close the gap!
Saint Rose of Lima Catholic School celebrates 75 years

By Alex Lodner

Saint Rose of Lima Catholic School, located on Hamlina Avenue in Roseville, will mark a milestone this school year. The Pre-K through eighth-grade school will celebrate 75 years on Sept. 16, with a Diamond Jubilee from 4 to 9 p.m. at the school.

Founded in 1940, the school’s mission is to provide quality academic and religious education as well as strong faith formation for its students. “I am so grateful that my children attend a school that not only gives them an excellent education but also cares about their emotional, mental and spiritual well-being,” said Saint Rose parent Vickie Brand.

The Diamond Jubilee will include a garden prayer service, Mass, a program PowerPlay, and a reunion for alumni of all ages. The Mass, which will be held in the adjacent church, will feature alumni from over the years. A memorabilia display will be set up inside the school gymnasium and will include old uniforms and photographs, along with a Saint Rose quilt from the 1960s. Alumni are encouraged to meet their fellow graduates and share stories of their time at the school.

Following Mass, dinner will be served in an outdoor tent. Tickets are $12 for adults and $8 for kids age 12 and under. (Prices go up after Sept. 11 to $16 for adults and $12 for children.) Participants are strongly encouraged to RSVP for the event and the dinner, but tickets will also be sold on the night of the event at a slightly higher price. The event is open to the public, and other than the dinner and cash bar, is free.

RSVP for the dinner at www.saintroseoflima.net/school/. Click on News & Events and then 75th Anniversary Diamond Jubilee.

Tours of the school will also be given throughout the evening and are expected to be popular with alumni who are curious to see how their favorite classrooms and hangout spots may have changed over the years. Around 500 guests are expected to attend the weekend’s festivities.

On Sunday, Sept. 20, the 21st annual Saint Rose of Lima Booster Club Benefit Golf Tournament will be held at Cedarholm Golf Course in Roseville, in conjunction with the Diamond Jubilee. All proceeds from the tournament benefit Saint Rose athletics.

program PowerPlay, and a reunion for alumni of all ages. The Mass, which will be held in the adjacent church, will feature alumni from over the years. A memorabilia display will be set up inside the school gymnasium and will include old uniforms and photographs, along with a Saint Rose quilt from the 1960s. Alumni are encouraged to meet their fellow graduates and share stories of their time at the school.

The first graduating class in June 1941, Saint Rose was established before the City of Roseville. At the time, the church and school were in Rose Township. The school’s enrollment that first year was 170, and five nuns from the Servite Order staffed the school. Sister Mary Margaret was the principal and taught the seventh and eighth grades. The other nuns taught two grades each.

The Rev. Blair A. Pogue, Rector

ST. MATTHEW’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
1744 Walnut St. (at Ione), Lauderdale, 651-644-5440
Pastor: Rev. Pat Hinker
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
A Reconciling Congregation. All are welcome!

ST. ANTHONY PARK UNITED CHURCH
2323 Como Avenue W., 651-645-0371
Staffed nursery available - handicap-accessible
Pastor: Glenn Berg-Moberg and Pastor Jill Role
Web, Facebook, & Twitter: SAPLC
Sunday Worship: Sept. 6 one service 10 a.m.
Starting Sept. 13, 8:30 & 11 a.m. with education hour for all 9:30 a.m.
Youth Choir (Grade 7-12) 5:15-6 p.m.
Adult Choir: 7:30-9 p.m.
A Reconciling Congregation. All are welcome!

ST. ANTHONY PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
2200 Hillside Ave. (at Como), 651-646-4859
Pastor: Rev. Pat Hinker
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
A Reconciling Congregation. All are welcome!

ST. ANTHONY PARK LUTHERAN CHURCH
2323 Como Avenue W., 651-645-0371
Staffed nursery available - handicap-accessible
Pastor: Glenn Berg-Moberg and Pastor Jill Role
Web, Facebook, & Twitter: SAPLC
Sunday Worship: Sept. 6 one service 10 a.m.
Starting Sept. 13, 8:30 & 11 a.m. with education hour for all 9:30 a.m.
Youth Choir (Grade 7-12) 5:15-6 p.m.
Adult Choir: 7:30-9 p.m.
A Reconciling Congregation. All are welcome!

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Sunday Mass: 8:30 a.m. at church
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ST. MATTHEW’S SEPISCPAL CHURCH
The Rev. Blair A. Pogue, Rector
3136 Cartier Ave. at Chanhassen, 651-645-3058
Sunday: 9:30 a.m. service with sermon and communion (summer schedule)

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

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Moisture damaged window sills, casings & trim replaced
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10 PARK BUGLE ■ SEPTEMBER 2015

Community Worship Directory
Como Park Cougars have been training all summer

Defining “fall” and using the term correctly within its calendar dates has always been tricky in Minnesota. Many student athletes in the Minneapolis State High School League (M SH SL) spend significant portions of June and July preparing for their fall sports seasons, which officially began Aug. 17.

Here’s a preview of Como Park varsity fall sports teams and storylines to follow.

Boys soccer—The 2015 season promises to be another exciting one for the consistently strong Cougars. Captains Israel Guzman Castillo, Ryan Yang and Tyler Johnson continue the tradition of determined and skilled players leading the program. With that, the Cougars face a challenging schedule with early nonconference opponents Hill-Murray and Mounds View, before running the gauntlet of fierce competition in the St. Paul City Conference, followed by the Section 4A playoffs.

New to the program this year is the program motto, “Next One.”

Football—The State High School League is implementing new scheduling and competitive formats, and the effects significantly alter the Cougars’ football landscape. Football teams began practices on Aug. 10, one week earlier than all other sports. That date allowed the Cougars two short weeks to prepare for their first game against Highland Park.

Harding is the only other St. Paul City team the Cougars will play this season.

For the first time in 105 years, there will be no St. Paul City Conference for football. Met with mixed reactions, the new state format promises to be solid tactically and incoming freshmen are expected to fill roles as needed. There is a new conference schedule format for both the boys and girls this season. Only the first round of conference games will count in the standings this season. Como’s attack must remain strong. The offense will be senior co-captains Delilah Wolf and Bekah Hartmann and juniors Mira Kammueller and Lizzy Larson.

Girls soccer—The Lady Cougars are coming off a successful 2014 season in the St. Paul City Conference, finishing third behind Central and Highland. To move up in the standings this season, Como’s attack must remain strong. Leading the offense will be senior co-captains Vanesa Acosta and Brianna Mersen. In addition, the Lady Cougars will continue to get heavy use as both the varsity and junior varsity teams.

Seniors Delilah Wolf and Bekah Hartmann are captains and key contributors as starters and role players. Senior Emily LaMaze-Dallahun played middle last season and led the team in kills, which is something Coach Kim Smisek is counting on her doing again to lead the offensive charge.

Three highly competitive scrimmages against top-level teams have been added to the Cougars’ schedule, as they ramp up the efforts for this special senior class to maximize their potential and create proud memories.

Girls tennis—Lady Cougars; traditionally they have finished third behind Central and Minneapolis Washburn in the St. Paul City Conference, earning All-Conference Honorable Mention last season and will serve as captains this season (see photo). After a fifth-place finish in 2014, the girls will work to climb up a level or two on the conference ladder and also play strongly against the suburban and private school competition they’ll meet during the season and in the section tournament.

Girls swimming and diving—The swim team placed third in the St. Paul City last season. Given the fact that several key swimmers have departed the program, the goal of improving throughout the season is to keep that position as a realistic one for the squad of 12 participants, according to coach Steve Conery.

Senior Lia Chin-Purcell will return as a captain and will continue to inspire teammates with her consistent work ethic and impressive times in several events, including the freestyle sprints.

Senior Ellie Thorgaard will share leadership responsibilities as a co-captain and contribute in multiple individual and relay events.

Eric Erickson is a social studies teacher at Como Park Senior High School and a longtime coach of school and youth sports in St. Paul. Follow twitter @eestp for current school sports news.
Woodpecker’s red belly not easy to see

The red-bellied woodpecker might be a tough bird for beginning bird watchers to identify. “Where’s the red belly?” they ask. You have to be able to see the down layer. Early ornithologists didn’t have the binoculars we have today. They watched birds over the end of a hotgun barrel. They'd shoot the bird, pick it up and identify it. So, holding this woodpecker in the hand, they’d be able to easily see the pink or red down on the belly. And that’s how it got its name.

When it’s alive and perched on a tree trunk or a feeder, the bird’s outer layer of body feathers usually covers that pink tummy.

The red-bellied woodpecker is about the size of a robin but slimmer. Both male and female have red on their heads. The male has more red, an uninterrupted patch of red that starts at the base of the upper bill, goes back over the top of the head and down the nape of the neck. The female has a pinkish-red blush at the top of the head, but the real solid red doesn’t start until the top of the head, then it goes back to the nape, like the male. The cheeks, neck and chin of the red-bellied are light colored, like the belly.

Some of my Lauderdale neighbors have gotten me excited by reporting a red-headed woodpecker in the village. But the red-headed woodpecker has a solid red head, chin and neck. I think they’re relooking without binoculars, seeing red on the head and jumping to the conclusion that it’s a red-headed.

Last summer, we had a pair of red-bellied woodpeckers visiting our peanut and suet feeders. One day, I noticed that the male was missing the tip of its upper bill. I did some research and learned that beaks are made of keratin protein, like our hair and nails. The proteins are laid down in parallel bundles on the bird’s beak to give it strength. There was strong assurance that it would grow back and even grow back to a point. As I watched it that summer, it did indeed grow back to a handsome bill.

The male lost his mate sometime last summer, but he brought a juvenile to our yard to show it where the peanuts came from. The younger red-bellied woodpecker is mostly gray. This was the red one on the head with the exception of a barely visible pink blush on the top of the head. Gradually as fall approached, the male began to get a little bit more red. At the top of the head, it was a female.

This past winter, the same male has been at the feeders. Again, it lost the tip of its upper bill in the spring, but it grew back by midsummer. Fortunately, this never affected its ability to poke peanuts out of the feeder.

An adult female accompanied the bird. They took turns at the feeders. Was this the daughter all grown up and now his mate? What’s going on? Are there no rules or taboos in the bird world?

There are some bird species in isolated populations that may practice incest, but most researchers think that the normal post-breeding dispersal of juveniles limits the amount of inbreeding. This female may very well have been one that came into the male’s territory after recognizing that he didn’t have a mate.

And the two of them brought a juvenile to the feeder this spring. So they’ve successfully brought another red-bellied woodpecker into the world. The juvenile is faithfully defending the peanut feeder from starlings, grackles and even blue jays. All of this is good to see.

You may hear a red-bellied woodpecker before you see one. They have a rather loud, distinctive call, described as a “kwr” or “churr.” If you hear that sound, keep your eyes peeled for a red-bellied. They also have a set of “chir” calls they use between each other.

Red-bellied woodpeckers are cavity nesters. They generally make a nest in a tree, snag or limb. The female lays an average of four eggs. Both adults take turns incubating the eggs for about 12 days. The male usually takes the nightshift. At 24 to 27 days after the eggs are laid, the young birds can fly. They stick around the nest site, being fed by their parents as they learn how to find food and protect themselves.

We usually see red-bellied woodpeckers year round, because they’re not migratory, except in a very bitter winter. I have seen them move a bit farther south to escape the worst of it. They cover the eastern United States as far north as mid-Maine and as far west as North Dakota.

I’ve really enjoyed watching this little family over the last few years.

Clay Christiansen lives and writes in Lauderdale. Hi, I’m the Birdman of Lauderdale, if you see a big red bird you can find me at Birdmanbook.com.

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The formal dining area features a lovely, corner style wood burning fireplace.

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Peter: 651-639-6388 petesparr@edinarealty.com
Lindsay: 651-639-6432 lindsayenael@edinarealty.com

The Birdman of Lauderdale by Clay Christiansen
Elda Dohman, 92, died Aug. 1.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 69 years, Glover; children, Dale (Diane), Char (Jim) Kammers and Donna Westervel; 13 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

Her funeral service was held Aug. 6 at Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Como Park, with interment at Elmihut Cemetery.

Elda Dohman was born to Anna Chambers of Blue Earth, Minn., on June 3, 1921. She graduated with honors from Carleton College in 1943, entered the U.S. Army Air Force and served in the South Pacific, then received a doctorate in History from the University of California Berkeley in 1950. She married the love of his life, Florence Wood, in 1944, and they moved to St. Anthony Park around 1957, living on Carter Avenue until 1963, Folwell Avenue in University Grove until 1985, and then were among the first residents of 1666 Coffman.

Clarke had a fulfilling and productive career at the University of Minnesota (1951–1990), where he was a professor of history and adjunct professor of social work. He established the U’s Social Welfare History Archives, chaired the Minnesota Humanities Commission (1978–80), and helped start the Elder Learning Institute (now OLLI). Students and friends remember the sparkle in his eyes and his ease at quickly forming a deep rapport.

He and Florence raised four children. In addition, he read and wrote poetry, loved to garden, travel and spend time at a cabin in Willow (Michael Gallagher), Robert (William) Strandberg, and a grandson, Winston. He is survived by his children, Paula Thorn, Pat (Patty) Whitcomb, Nancy (Gary) Ketchel and David Whitcomb; nine grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

Alletta Wood Dowin, 85, of Falcon Heights, died Aug. 2. She was preceded in death by her husband, William, 93, of Falcon Heights, who died in 2004.

Alletta was born in Clinton, Iowa, Aug. 2, 1925. After training at the Jane Lamb Hospital, she became a nurse in 1947. She met John Ring of Brooten and married Jerome Johnson on June 19, 1939. They had two children.

Alletta enjoyed living in St. Anthony Park with her family on Grantham Street from 1952 to 1976. She loved people, cooking, gardening, entertaining, painting, genealogy, sewing and travel.

Following their retirement from General Mills, where Alletta worked in the Chemical Library and Jerome as a research machinist, they moved to Minneapolis in 1976, where Jerome passed away in March 1992.

Alletta is survived by her son, Warren, and daughter, Kathleen (William) Strandburg, and a granddaughter, Kimberly Strandburg.

Loretta Ring, 89, of Falcon Heights, died July 31, two days before her 90th birthday.

Loretta was born in Clinton, Iowa, Aug. 2, 1925. After training at the Jane Lamb Hospital, she became a nurse in 1947. She met John Ring in Clinton, where he was recovering from injuries incurred while serving in World War II. They married in 1947.

After she graduated from Macalester College in 1963, she started a second career, working for 26 years as an elementary teacher in St. Paul Public Schools.

Ice hockey became a passion and almost a life-long love. She started playing at age 47 with a group of Roseville women and continued playing with the University of Minnesota Club Team and the Flyers Women’s Team until age 80 (and was featured in a short TPT documentary).

Loretta received the Joe Burke Award from USA Hockey, plus Hall of Fame Awards from the Women’s Hockey Association of Minnesota and the Minnesota High School Coaches Association.

She started the Jane Ring/Sue Ring/Jarvi Girls’/Women’s Hockey Fund in 1997, which awards two scholarships annually to high school senior girl hockey players. She co-sponsored the Blue J’s Bandits, J Hawks and other women’s teams. In addition, she worked with Macalester College to create the school’s Women’s Hockey Club and funded its first year.

She was preceded in death by her brother, John Yourd, and sister, Lee Fitts. She is survived by her husband, John; daughter, Sue Ring-Jarvi (Roland); son, Steven Ring (Molly Redmond); and two grandchildren.

A memorial service was held at New Life Presbyterian Church, Roseville, where she had been an active member. Burial will be private at a later time.

James Whitcomb, 90, died July 31. He was born Aug. 17, 1924, in Morgan, Minn., the son of Frank and Lillian Witzbom.

He attended St. Anthony Park Leisure Center at St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church and was known by many seniors in the area.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Joyce sisters, Catherine Larson and Charlotte Kospich, brothers, Charles Whitcomb and Ralph Witzbom; and great-grandson, William. He is survived by his children, Paula Thorn, Pat (Patty) Whitcomb, Nancy (Gary) Ketchel and David Whitcomb; nine grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and sister, Virginia Kospich.

His memorial service was held Aug. 6 at Bradshaw Funeral Home, with interment at Fort Snelling National Cemetery.
September Events

Venue information is listed at the end of the calendar. Send your events to calendar@parkbugle.org by Wednesday, Sept. 9, to be included in the October issue.

1 TUESDAY
Baby/toddler story time, every Tuesday, St. Anthony Park Library, 10:30-11 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.-noon.

“Id Edibles and Foraging,” presented by Deb Gallup, naturalist, forager and Master Gardener, St. Anthony Park Garden Club, St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church, 7 p.m.

5 WEDNESDAY
Preschool story time, Fridays in time, St. Anthony Park Library, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

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

10 THURSDAY
Learn Chinese Folk Dancing, morning exercise free and open for adults, St. Anthony Park Library, 10-11:30 a.m.

St. Anthony Park Area Seniors Cinema Series, “7 at 6 on Up,” St. Anthony Park Library, 2:4 p.m.

12 SATURDAY
The Rev. Carol Parish will lead a workshop on “Exploring the Divine Blueprint for Humanity,” Spirit United Church, 2-6 p.m. $35 adults, $55 couples or families, and $30 for students, seniors and Theosophical Society members.

14 MONDAY
September in St. Anthony Park: The Old-Time Maker Series Presents: A Thousand Years of Spinning, St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church, 10 a.m.-noon. Limited to 12 participants, register by calling SAPAS, 651-642-9051.

Community Sing, Olson Campus Center, Luther Seminary, 6:30 p.m.

21 MONDAY
Movie Light Source, Spirit United Church, 7 p.m., $5 suggested donation.

22 TUESDAY
St. Anthony Park Area Seniors Tuesday Tots Time, 9-10:30 a.m.

31 FRIDAY
Preschool Mandarin Chinese story time, St. Anthony Park Library, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

5 SEPTEMBER
Blood Drive, St. Anthony Park
8 TUESDAY
Preschool story time, every Tuesday, St. Anthony Park Library, 10:30-11 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.-noon.

“Id Edibles and Foraging,” presented by Deb Gallup, naturalist, forager and Master Gardener, St. Anthony Park Garden Club, St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church, 7 p.m. social time and refreshments, program 7-8:30 p.m.

2 WEDNESDAY
English Conversation Circles, every Wednesday, St. Anthony Park Library, 4-5:30 p.m.

St. Anthony Park Book Club, “The Invention of Wings” by Sue Monk Kidd, St. Anthony Park Library, 6-8 p.m.

3 THURSDAY
Caregiver Support Group, first Thursday of each month, St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ, 10-11:30 a.m.

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

4 FRIDAY
Preschool story time, Fridays in September, St. Anthony Park Library, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

8 TUESDAY
Blood Drive, St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, 2-7 p.m. To schedule a donation go to www.redcrossblood.org and use sponsor code SAPL, or call Michelle at 651-647-9526.

9 WEDNESDAY
Pamela Smith Hill, editor of Laura Ingalls Wilder autobiography “Pioneer Girl” will speak at Roseville Library, 2180 N. Hamline Ave., 1 p.m.

10 THURSDAY
Learn Chinese Folk Dancing, morning exercise free and open for adults, St. Anthony Park Library, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

St. Anthony Park Area Seniors Cinema Series, “7 at 6 on Up,” St. Anthony Park Library, 2:4 p.m.

12 SATURDAY
The Rev. Carol Parish will lead a workshop on “Exploring the Divine Blueprint for Humanity,” Spirit United Church, 2-6 p.m. $35 adults, $55 couples or families, and $30 for students, seniors and Theosophical Society members.

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Community Sing, Olson Campus Center, Luther Seminary, 6:30 p.m.

27 SUNDAY
Sunday Afternoon Book Club, “Far From the Hadding Crowd” by Thomas Hardy, Micawber’s, 2:30 p.m.

28 MONDAY
Senior Exercise, Tuesdays and Thursdays, Spirit United Church, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Senior Apartments, 10-11 a.m.

2180 N. Hamline Ave., 1 p.m.

Girl” will speak at Roseville Library, 510 Roseville Blvd. NW, 10 a.m.-11 a.m.

21 MONDAY
Artful Expressions, presented by CORE-PAS: paper collage workshop taught by Lucy Rose Fischer, St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church, 10 a.m.-noon. Limited to 12 participants, register by calling SAPAS, 651-642-9051.

Community Sing, Olson Campus Center, Luther Seminary, 6:30 p.m.

2136 Carter Ave., 651-645-3058

St. Anthony Park Area Seniors Tuesday Tots Time, 9-10:30 a.m. and 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Arbor Pointe Senior Apartments, 651-642-1694

Community Sing, Olson Campus Center, Luther Seminary, 6:30 p.m.

FREE SENIOR BLOOD PRESSURE CLINICS
St. Anthony Park Area Seniors:
Wednesday, St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church, 11:30 a.m.-noon

Como Park/Falcon Heights Block Nurse Program
Third Thursdays, Arbor Pointe Senior Apartments, 10-11 a.m.

Fourth Thursdays, Falcon Heights Town Square Senior Apartments, 11 a.m.-noon

VENUE INFORMATION
Arbor Pointe Senior Apartments, 635 W. Maryland Ave. N.

Falcon Heights Town Square Senior Apartments, 1530 W. Larpenteur Ave.

Lauderdale City Hall, 1891 Walnut St., 651-631-9300

Micawber’s Books, 2238 Carter Ave., 651-646-5506

Olson Campus Center, Luther Seminary, 1490 Fulham St.

Spirit United Church, 3204 Como Ave. SE, Minneapolis, 651-235-1924

St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, 2223 Como Ave., 651-645-0371

St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ, 2219 Commonwealth Ave., 651-646-7173

St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church, 2200 Holidee Ave., 651-693-8945

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

Walking piano tour
Area piano students went on a “walking piano tour” of the St. Anthony Park neighborhood on July 23.

Nine students from Rebekah Richards Piano Studio began the afternoon performing at St. Anthony Park Home. From there they walked to the Piano on Parade at Milton Square, where they performed for passerby, parents, friends and even a local dog.

The last stop was at the home of Ruth Pierce, 93, a retired schoolteacher and former violinist. The students enjoyed sharing their music with her.

Students who participated were Morgan Nicholls, Emma Ingwalson, Paige Ingwalson, Maddy Schilling, Kiki Ruddy, Paige Mohror, Frances Kozak and Cora Neuse.

St. Paul Park and Rec news
Basketball Registration is Sept 1-31 at all St. Paul Park and Recreation centers. The first five days of registration are early discount days.

You can register by going to your recreation site, by calling and using a credit card, or go to www.sbdaz.gov/parks.

Registration for fall classes has begun at all recreation centers. Here is what is happening at Northdale:

Northwest Como and Langford:
Northdale Como 1550 N. Hamline Ave., 651-298-5813
Adults: Yoga, Pilates, Senior Fitness and Square Dance
Tae Kwon Do: all ages
Ballet/tap/creativity movement, ages 3-12
Ballet, ages 3-7
Tae Kwon Do: all ages
Drumming, ages 8-Adult
Growing With Music, ages 9 months-5 years

Northwest Como, 1414 N. St. Albans St., 651-558-2329
Tae Kwon Do, ages 10-13
Cooking, ages 9-14
Basketball warm-up, ages 9-14
Artwork workshop, ages 7-13
The Very Hungry Caterpillar art class, ages 3-4
Funtastic Fridays, ages 6-12

Langford, 30 Langford Park, 651-298-5765
Basketball warm-up for adults
Tuesdays, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Hallowen crafts, ages 2-4
Basketball warm-up, ages 9-14
Cooking, ages 9-14

Neighbors

Rebekah Richards (left) and her piano students at the home of Ruth Pierce (center).
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Your big-box antidote: convenience, comfort, community

By Kristal Leebrick

The Little Wine Shoppe, 2236 Carter Ave., has a lot in common with the fictional Boston bar in the 1980s TV sitcom Cheers.

Everybody knows your name. They know your kids’ names. They know your dogs. And they know which wines you tend to go for, not that they don’t strive to help you explore new territory.

Looking for the right wine to go with those brats grilling in the backyard on a late-summer evening? Tim Hausmann, a certified sommelier who works at the store three days a week, suggests the Italian Weissburgunder Pinot Bianco. It’s a great accompaniment to any kind of grilled salmon?

Proprietor Pam Johnson suggests the French Château de L’Aiguillette Muscadet Sèvre et Main. Burgers, steak or any other red meat? Try the Dancing Coyote Zinfandel (we’re talking red zinfandel), “Across the board, (zinfandel) is a crowd pleaser,” Hausmann says.

Something to sip out on the porch on those waning summer days? Rosé, both Johnson and Hausmann agree. They have several to choose from, and chances are the wine you buy will be a small-production bottle from an artisan winery.

In case in point: Les Brebils Pinot Noir from the Willamette Valley of Oregon, a low-tech winery that produces just 300 cases of pinot noir each year. The small label describes its winemaking as “more about what we don’t do than it is about what we do.”

What Les Brebils doesn’t do is add commercial yeast, allowing the fermentation to start spontaneously with the wild yeast that is naturally present in the grapes and in the wine cellar. You won’t find Les Brebils in the big retailers, Hausmann says. The winery is too small. “It’s off their radar.”

“We try to gravitate toward smaller, lesser known producers because their wines tend to be more handcrafted and much less commercialized,” Hausmann says. “It’s important to us to support smaller operations. We feel they are more often in the business of winemaking because they have a passion for it, not just to make money.”

If there’s a particular wine a customer would like the shop to carry, they will do their best to stock it.

Keeping a small wine store competitive in the Twin Cities is no easy task when the competition includes billion-dollar out-of-state corporations that can bring customers into their stores by advertising well-known national brands at or just above wholesale costs.

Johnson’s strategy is to promote smaller wineries, local distilleries—including Gentleman Scholar, Norseman and Solveig—and as many local beers as she can fit into her cooler. “Just ask,” she says, “we’ll get it for you.”

And shopping close to home is more than just convenient, Johnson says. “We are the neighborhood wine cellar. We are convenient and we give back to our community.”

The Little Wine Shoppe was one of the sponsors of the St. Anthony Park Garden Club’s 2015 Garden Tour and a supporter of the Fourth in the Park celebration in July and the St. Anthony Park Community Foundation. Johnson also donates to the local schools and other neighborhood institutions, uses a local accountant and seeks legal counsel from a local attorney.

And, yes, you can buy Kim Crawford Sauvignon Blanc for less than what the Little Wine Shoppe pays for it wholesale at that wine superstore that shall not be named, but sometimes the neighborhood store can be the bargain.

Recently, a regular customer inquired about purchasing a large amount of wine for a birthday celebration. Johnson crunched the numbers at her shop and at a nearby big-box retailer. With the volume discount she gives on cases, the customer saved money by purchasing the wine through the Carter Avenue store.

The shop offers a 10 percent discount on a case of wine and a 15 percent discount on the purchase of two or more cases. But something the Little Wine Shoppe offers that most big-box stores don’t is this: The shop holds a wine tasting the third Thursday of each month for customers to sample new wines coming into the store. The next tasting will be held Sept. 17, 4:30-7:30 p.m.

Open house at St. Francis Animal & Bird Hospital

St. Francis Animal & Bird Hospital, 1227 W. Larpenteur Ave., will host an open house on Sunday, Sept. 13, 1-4 p.m. The vet center will offer tours of the facility and have several educational stations available to highlight important health care topics for pets. There will also be a raffle to benefit local rescue groups. Cause for Paws and Pet Project Rescue.

Due to the small size of the facility, participants are asked not to bring their pets to the event. For more information, call 651-645-2808 or email group@stfranciscashb.com.