



New trees

Como Park is site of oak-regeneration project.

Page 9



Comfort food

Where to find a meal to ease winter's chill.

Page 10



Champs!

Como high school fall sports teams bagged three championships.

Page 22



Festive fun



Our holiday shopping and activity guide starts on page 11

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Bugle

St. Anthony Park / Falcon Heights
Lauderdale / Como Park

www.parkbugle.org
December 2015

USPS approves funding for Como Station

By Kristal Leebrick

The Como Station post office will reopen in a new location in St. Anthony Park, but that location has not been determined.

The U.S. Postal Service (USPS) has approved funding to lease a new site in the neighborhood. The next step is finding 966 square feet of space to house the operation, said USPS spokesperson Pete Nowacki.

Before a space can be leased, the USPS is required to hold a public meeting to gather community input. That meeting is set for Tuesday, Dec. 8, at 5 p.m. at Luther Seminary's Olson Campus Center, dining room A & B, 1490 Fulham St. USPS representatives will present a proposal for the relocation at the meeting.

Written comments on the proposal will be accepted until Jan.

7, 2016, and may be submitted to Greg Shelton, real estate specialist, USPS, 200 E. Kentucky Ave., Denver, CO 80209-9950.

The USPS plans to open the new post office "as close to the original facility as possible," Nowacki said. The new facility will have the same amount of post office boxes and counter space as the former site, he said.

The U.S. Postal Service's lease at 2286 Como Ave. expired in November and the post office closed on Nov. 13. Post office boxes at that station have been temporarily moved to the Roseville Branch at 2000 W. County Road B2. The Como Station post office had been in that building since 1970.

Word that the post office may close began when the building went on the market a year ago. In

February, Frattallone's Ace Hardware made a bid for the property. In June, co-owner Tom Frattallone said the company had planned to open a store in late February 2016. The Bugle has not been able to get an update on the company's plans.

In the meantime, area post office branches and stations are listed below:

Roseville station, 2000 W. County Road B2. Retail hours are Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday, 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m. The lobby is open 24 hours a day.

Minnesota Transfer Station, 2334 W. University Ave. Hours are Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. and 2:30-5 p.m.

University Station, 2811 University Ave. S.E., Minneapolis. Retail hours are Monday-Friday, 8:30a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday 9

a.m.-1 p.m.

St. Paul Student Center, 2017 Buford Ave., has a postal station at the center's information desk on the lower level. That station is open Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-7 p.m. and Saturday, noon-5 p.m.

Looking for a place to process a passport? The closest locations to do that are the Roseville License Center, 2737 N. Lexington Ave., or the Minneapolis Main Post Office, 100 S. First St., Room 106. The downtown Minneapolis post office has free parking in a lot adjacent to the building, something that many visitors don't realize, Nowacki said.

You can read more about the Como Station post office and Annette Edeburn, the face behind the counter there for nearly 30 years, on page 3.

The sound of music

Monthly gathering brings neighbors together to sing

By Kristal Leebrick

At a very young age, Dan Chouinard knew that one of his "specialties was going to be playing music for people to sing and dance to," he says, a vocation inspired by his grandparents who often sat at the family piano playing duets from their dating years, the Tin Pan Alley music of the 1920s.

For more than two years now, Chouinard and singer-songwriter Ann Reed have been doing just that—playing music and leading people in song—at Luther Seminary's Olson Campus Center in St. Anthony Park. On the third Monday of each month, organizer Rose Gregoire estimates that 70 to 120 people of all ages come to the center's second-floor commons to sing together. Lyrics to the songs—a mix of tunes curated by Chouinard and Reed and requests from participants—are projected on a screen behind the two musicians.

Reed and Chouinard get together the week before each sing to plan the night's itinerary.

"We look at musician birthdays and music anniversaries of the month, and if we find that a particular musical opened on a particular date and we want to

observe that date, we plan our repertoire accordingly," Chouinard says.

The October sing started off with the "Sound of Music," a song made famous by Julie Andrews, who was born on Oct. 1. The group sang "American Pie" by Don McClean (born Oct. 2), "Sister Suffragette" from the movie *Mary Poppins* (Glynis Johns, who played Mrs. Banks in the film, was born Oct. 5), "Yesterday" by John Lennon and Paul McCartney (it was the No. 1 hit that week 50 years before) and "Beautiful Dreamer" by Stephen Foster. That was one of Eleanor Roosevelt's favorite songs and she was born Oct. 11.

"Ann and I each bring our own particular, and peculiar, I might say, tastes," Chouinard says. "We try to keep a balance of styles and generations, and we get requests every month." Some are sent to them via email and others are "scribbled out at the previous sing-along."

Chouinard, a freelance pianist, accordionist and writer who does work for the Minnesota Historical Society and Minnesota Public Radio, spends two nights a month leading community sings. For years he's been leading one in the



Ann Reed, left, and Dan Chouinard lead the monthly St. Anthony Park community sing held on the Luther Seminary campus. Photo by Lori Hamilton

recreation building at Loring Park, Minneapolis. The group there tends to sing more pop radio tunes and classic Broadway, "more Rodgers and Hammerstein, more Beach Boys,

more Beatles," Chouinard says.

The St. Anthony Park group has varied tastes, "but we do keep

Sing out to 3

C I T Y F I L E S

Como Park

The District 10 Como Community Council meets at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of the month at the Historic Streetcar Station, 1224 N. Lexington Parkway. Contact 651-644-3889 or www.district10comopark.org.

Open house will show plans for McMurray Field redesign

The District 10 Como Community Council will host an open house on Tuesday, Dec. 15, 4:30-6:45 p.m., at the Historic Streetcar Station, 1224 N. Lexington Parkway, to look at the city's latest proposals to reconfigure parking, traffic flow, trails and the softball diamonds around McMurray Field, the woodlands outdoor classroom and the Como Pool.

In its most recent incarnation,

project designers propose:

- Adding parking along Jessamine Avenue, along Beulah Lane, and south and east of the pool
 - Closing the intersection of Lexington and Jessamine
 - Reconfiguring Wynne Avenue, especially on the western end of the athletic fields
 - Adding a feeder drive that parallels Lexington from Wynne to Jessamine
 - Reducing the number of softball fields from five to three
 - Adding walking and bicycling trails in the area
 - Increasing participant and spectator access to the athletic fields
- See conceptual drawings at www.stpaul.gov/index.aspx?nid=5764.

Honor thy neighbors

Know neighbors who help make the Como Park area a better place to live, work or play? Nominate them for St. Paul's Neighborhood Honor Roll.

The annual citywide award pays tribute to residents who improve the quality of life in St. Paul.

To nominate someone: Send a short description of their accomplishments or the reasons they should be honored to district10@district10comopark.org. The deadline is Monday, Dec. 7.

The District 10 board will evaluate nominees and select up to three winners at the Tuesday, Dec. 15, council meeting. A dinner on Jan. 29 will officially recognize honorees from District 10 and other St. Paul neighborhoods.

Making organics recycling easier

Como Composts is working with St. Paul Parks and Recreation to locate an organics drop-off site in the neighborhood, most likely at the west end of McMurray Field along Beulah Lane. Now, the closest place to dispose of organic compost is Ramsey County's yard waste site on Pierce Butler Route. In a recent community survey, 87 percent of respondents said they would prefer a location in the neighborhood.

Meanwhile, free recycling bins and kitchen compost starter kits are available at the District 10 office in the Historic Streetcar Station.

You can pick them up on Sunday, Dec. 6, noon-4 p.m. Or call 651-644-3889 and arrange to pick up by appointment.

Interested in a seed exchange?

The District 10 Environmental Committee is setting up a seed exchange for heirloom garden vegetables, native plants and other growing things, starting in spring 2016. If you want to take part, contact Dawn Lamm, comoseedsavers@gmail.com. Or find out more on Facebook: www.facebook.com/comoseedsavers.

Are you on the D10 newsletter list?

To keep up to date in Como, sign up for District 10's weekly e-newsletter, which is sent out every Friday. Visit district10comopark.org, then click on the sign-up icon in the right column.

Falcon Heights and Lauderdale

The Falcon Heights City Council meets the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 7 p.m. at Falcon Heights City Hall, 2077 W. Larpeur Ave. Contact www.falconheights.org or 651-792-7600.

The Lauderdale City Council meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in Lauderdale City Hall, 1891 Walnut St. Contact www.ci.lauderdale.mn.us or 651-792-7650.

Lauderdale public hearing

The City of Lauderdale's Truth-in-

Taxation public hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 8, at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Lions Club tree sale starts Nov. 27

The Lions Club of Falcon Heights/Lauderdale is celebrating its 29th year of selling Christmas trees. Visit the club at Community Park on the corner of Roselawn and Cleveland avenues if you are shopping for a tree. The lot will be open evenings and weekends starting Friday, Nov. 27. Purchases go toward the Lions Club support of organizations in the community.

St. Anthony Park

The District 12 Community Council meets on the second Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at Jennings Community Learning Center, 2455 University Ave. To find when council committees meet, go to www.sapcc.org or call 651-649-5992.

New board members at D12

The St. Anthony Park Community Council held elections for members of the board in November. New council members are Michael Russelle and John Mark Lucas, who will represent north St. Anthony Park, and Ian Luby, who will represent south St. Anthony Park.

Outgoing members are Seth Levin, Mimi Jennings, JoAnne Makela, John Seppanen and Linda Hodge.

It's Honor Roll time again

The St. Anthony Park Community Council is looking for nominations of residents who have made outstanding contributions to the neighborhood for the city's Neighborhood Honor Roll. Honorees will be treated to a special dinner in January. Their names will then join the names of neighborhood honorees from past years on a plaque hung in St. Paul City Hall.

Send the name and a 50-word description of the person's work and contributions to Cailin Rogers, cailin@sapcc.org by Thursday, Dec. 4.

We support the Bugle

and here's why

"I have worked in the housing and community-development field my entire career and have seen how a robust and widely supported neighborhood newspaper signals a vital and engaged community. I think the Park Bugle is one of the finest neighborhood newspapers I've ever come across. It provides the connective tissue and the thought leadership

that helps makes the communities of Falcon Heights, St. Anthony Park, Como Park and Lauderdale great places to live. The Bugle not only connects us within our neighborhood, it's inviting to the broader community. The coverage of current issues like the proposed new housing developments and school board elections is excellent. Ann, in particular, loves reading about the next generation of families and individuals in the community and the energy and new ideas they bring.

"We have lived in the St. Anthony Park for 23 years and raised our three children here. The Bugle has kept us connected to the people, life, activities and key issues of our community.

"Yearly, Ann and I support the Bugle because we want to live in an engaged, caring and well-informed community. We hope you'll be generous in your support of this extraordinary community resource."

Paul Fate
Former president and CEO
CommonBond Communities

Give to the Bugle this year and help this 41-year-old community resource keep on keeping on.
Go to www.parkbugle.org and click on the green GiveMN button on the right.



Paul, Theo and Ann Fate

**It's turkey (photo) time, again**

What's a December issue of the Bugle without a turkey photo? We couldn't resist giving this bird some press. With Thanksgiving so close, this is one bold turkey hanging out on a fence in a St. Anthony Park back yard. *Photo by Kristal Leebrick*

Meet the familiar face behind the P.O. counter for nearly 30 years

Don't worry, she'll be back.

Annette Edeburn, the familiar face behind the counter at the Como Avenue post office for nearly 30 years, will return to the Como Station—but no one is quite sure when that will be, or exactly where. (See the story about USPS plans to open a new post office in St. Anthony Park on page 1.)

Until those decisions have been made, you can find Edeburn at the Roseville branch, 2000 County Road B2.

The Como Avenue branch closed on Nov. 13 after the lease it had held since 1970 expired. In February, Frattallone's Ace Hardware made a bid for the property. In June, co-owner Tom Frattallone said the company had planned to open a store in late February 2016. Recent repeated attempts to get an update from Frattallone's have been unsuccessful.



Annette Edeburn

We asked Edeburn a few questions about her time working on Como Avenue:

What are the more peculiar items you've shipped in your time with the USPS? "Mufflers and

exhaust pipes. They are long and hard to fit into boxes. And bikes, mailing bikes to Africa."

Busiest day of the year at the post office? "The day after Thanksgiving."

Odd anecdotes? "People leave things here all the time. People leave car keys and never come back to get them."

Favorite things? "It's funny to see the dogs press their noses against the glass door [because they know] we keep a jar of dog treats behind the counter. At one time, the hardware store next door [in the current Mischief site] and Ned's Park Service across the street all had dog treats. It was dog heaven."

"We keep a basket of Dum Dums [candy suckers] for the kids. All post offices should have candy. It brings the kids in and makes people interested in the post office."—*Kristal Leebrick*

Sing out from 1

coming back to Pete Seeger and the music of the peak of the Vietnam War protest years." The song "If I Had a Hammer" by Pete Seeger and Lee Hays "is one that shows up more often than any other tune," Chouinard says.

The idea for the monthly sing was sparked when Gregoire's friends Michael and Regula Russelle held a sing at the Olson Campus Center to celebrate their wedding anniversary. "People enjoyed it so much," Gregoire says, that she asked around to see if people would be interested in making this a regular event. They were.

Now Gregoire, her husband, Bob delMas, and neighbors Dennis and Turid Ormseth, Regula Russelle, Chuck and Anna Tracy, and Patty Rogness volunteer time each month to organize the sing. The event is free, but a hat is passed to pay the musicians and to cover piano tuning and the cost of printing posters that advertise the sing. Luther Seminary donates the space and St. Anthony Park Community Council donates the projector and screen that are used to display the song lyrics.

The group welcomed Chouinard back in October after a two-month hiatus. He was in Italy working on a movie.

"I was an accordion-playing leader of a little dance band that shows up on a hay wagon and plays for a wacky costumed dance where all lovers in the film decide they are going to tie the knot," he says. "It's a romantic comedy in the style of an old fable." The film, titled *Smitten!*, was written by Barry Morrow, a Twin Cities native who also wrote the movie *Rain Man* from 1988.

The December sing will be held on the second Monday, Dec. 14, instead of the third. People will gather at 6:30 p.m. for social time and sing from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Chouinard and Reed try to keep the song choices as "ecumenical as possible," he says, but he knows folks

will expect some holiday tunes.

"There are a lot of people who feel you can't go to a holiday sing-along and not sing 'Frosty' or 'Rudolph' or 'Deck the Halls.'" But he doesn't want to short-change the December birthdays, he says, as he scans his "big long document with dates and names and notes and songs" and notes Walt Disney was born Dec. 5 and Ira Gershwin on the 6th, and the list goes on: Dionne Warwick, Connie Francis, Frank Sinatra, Tom Waits, Sammy Davis Jr., Jimmy Buffet and the musical "Music Man" opened on Broadway on Dec. 19, 1957.

Want to sing more?

Here is a list of nearby gatherings:

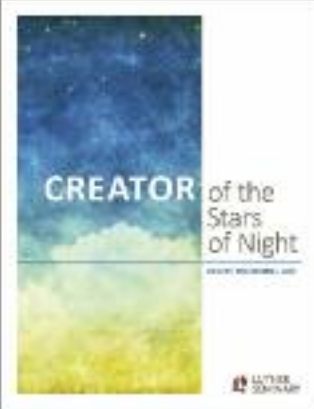
The Dubliner Pub, 2162 University Ave., holds a Shanty Sing the second Monday of each month

at 7:30 p.m. and Hymn Tap with the Fleshpots of Egypt the first Monday of the month at 7 p.m. Dubliner events are for those 21 and older.

The Urban Growler, 2325 Endicott St., hosts a Song Circle and Acoustic Jam on occasional Wednesdays. Check the schedule at urbangrowlerbrewing.com.

Merlins Rest Pub, 3601 E. Lake St., Minneapolis: If you want to venture out of St. Paul, Merlins Rest hosts an all-ages Shanty Sing on the fourth Monday of the month at 7 p.m., but beware: "There will be some mild cussing, reference to the joys of liquor and sex, and probably some references to women and/or ethnic origin that will offend the thin-skinned. But if your kid is up for it, and knows not to sing about how much he loves whisky in front of Aunt Bathilda, come on down!"

2015 Advent Devotional



Luther Seminary invites you to pray and reflect with "Creator of the Stars of Night."

This year's Advent devotional is written by faculty members Mark Throntveit, Lois Malcolm, Adam Copeland and Cameron Howard. It is available online as printed collections. Sign up to receive God Pause daily devotions at www.luthersem.edu/advent to have "Creator of the Stars of Night" emailed to you daily.

May these devotions be a source of joy, peace and reflection for you this Advent season. Questions? Email semrel@luthersem.edu.

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UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

NOTICE

Public Meeting to be Held

5 p.m. on Tuesday, December 8, 2015

Relocation of Como Station, MN, Post Office
Located At 2286 Como Ave
St. Paul, MN 55108-1722

Meeting Location:
Olsen Center- Dining Room A&B
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St. Paul, MN 55108

Contact the Mayor's Office for Details



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Next deadline:

**Dec. 2. The paper
will be published Dec. 15.**

The Park Bugle is a nonprofit community newspaper serving St. Anthony Park, Lauderdale, Falcon Heights and Como Park. The Bugle reports and analyzes community news and promotes the exchange of ideas and opinions in these communities. The Bugle strives to promote freedom of expression, enhance the quality of life in the readership communities and encourage community participation.

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C O M M E N T A R Y

*Welcome to the Bugle editorial page, the place where we exchange ideas and opinions.
The views reflected in the commentaries and letters printed here each month are the opinions of the writers.
We encourage community participation on this page. Bugle contact information is in the box at left.*

Guess who's coming to Thanksgiving dinner

My wife and I recently traveled to a small Minnesota city for a reunion with some of her relatives. Accommodations were in short supply, so a niece's mother-in-law, whom I'll call Gladys, offered us the use of her house. She was going to be out of town and said we could have the run of the place. However, when we arrived, my sister-in-law, whom I'll call Ruby, informed us that the offer had been rescinded.

The reason? Our son and his partner had decided to come along at the last minute, and Gladys didn't want non-heterosexual people sully her house with their gayness, even though she wouldn't have been there to witness it. We had to scramble to find alternative housing, paying an exorbitant price for the last two motel rooms in town.

For her part, Ruby was embarrassed and apologetic, and we did our best to assuage her. I told her and her husband that the important thing was that they loved and embraced us—all of us—and that I didn't give a fig about some intolerant old bat with whom I would rarely if ever have any dealings in the future.

While it is tempting to offer this story up as evidence of the type of discrimination that faces my son and his partner daily, that would be incorrect. In fact, none of us can think of one instance wherein they

have been harassed or mistreated. It helps, of course, that we live in an extremely enlightened city in a fairly enlightened state, rather than living in a part of the world where gays are jailed or stoned to death.

It's the highest of ironies to me that most objections to homosexuality come via religion. Were I a religious man, I certainly wouldn't worship a god who decrees that between 7 and 11 percent of His or Her human creations must either suffer in silence their entire lives or burn in hell, or both. That is simply not a god of my making.

When Minnesota's gay marriage amendment was introduced, I thought it was a terrible idea, but only because of the timing: I told anyone who would listen that it was too soon after the anti-gay marriage amendment almost passed, that we should wait a couple of years for the smoke to clear before fighting our fight. I've never been so happy to be so wrong. This was a change whose time had clearly come, and once the momentum started, the movement became a juggernaut.

In a matter of months, Americans—along with much of the rest of the civilized world—have reversed engines on millennia of gay persecution. We now have openly gay newscasters, entertainers, store clerks and athletes, and it's amazing

to realize that it was only 20 years ago that Bill Clinton, whom many consider to have been among our more enlightened presidents, passed the Defense of Marriage Act, codifying gay discrimination as regards nuptials. And the Stonewall riots, which unofficially started the latter-day gay rights movement, took place less than a half-century ago. The first gay man I knew, in 1966, was voluntarily undergoing aversion therapy at the state mental hospital wherein he would be shown pictures of naked men while receiving electric shocks. He was trying not to be gay.

There are a couple of reasons for the lightning speed with which this evolution—once finally started!—has occurred. The first and most important is the increasing rate at which gays started coming out a few years ago. Then, because of that, the rest of us made a profound discovery: Everyone has gay people in their family. That forced us into either accepting the gayness of loved ones or disowning them, and it seems, by anecdotal evidence at least, that most of us have opted for the former.

Ruby and her husband (and, for that matter, most of the rest of my wife's family) are as conservative as they come—we do not talk politics with them—but they love their gay grandson, and they love our son, and both are welcomed with hugs and

kisses into their home.

And what of Gladys, the niece's mother-in-law? Well, in our environment and in our time, she is quaint, a throwback. I could think of all sorts of ways to diss her, but I choose to imagine the time when a son or a daughter or a grandson or a granddaughter professes their gayness to her and she has to make a hard decision. It's one thing to refuse accommodation to a gay couple one hardly knows; it's quite another to sit across the Thanksgiving dinner table and look a blood relative in the eye and say, "I'm sorry, I just don't believe that you and your partner should have the same civil rights and expectations of happiness that the rest of us do."

Do I view this woman in a condescending light? You bet. She's had opportunity in the last couple of years to rethink and retool her intolerance of homosexuality and has chosen not to do so. But I predict that in the not-too-distant future, when she discovers those gay loved ones embedded in her family, she will deny ever having been homophobic. That's my hope, for her and for the rest of us.

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

L E T T E R S

steps.

In the final designs and construction of the buildings, we urge them to significantly exceed current minimum building energy standards and to engineer the structures to permit conversion in the future to geothermal, solar, energy storage or other technologies that are on the horizon.

To the extent possible, we ask that they include opportunities for flexible use of space in all buildings—meeting rooms, workshop spaces and emergency shelters, for example—and outdoor gardening areas for food, beauty, habitat and community-building.

We recognize change often is not welcome: the loss of a tree, on-street parking near light rail, a favorite business or a beloved neighbor who has had to move away; expansion of Murray School, the library or a neighbor's garage; the need for new priorities and habits in the face of global climate change.

This proposed development will alter how two areas of our neighborhood look and has raised some concerns. But the opportunities to benefit our

community are huge. Let's continue a respectful, creative and constructive dialog.

Marilyn Benson, Lois Braun, Lynn Englund, Ranae Hanson, Mimi Jennings, Mindy Keskinen, Michael Russelle, Regula Russelle, Pat Thompson and Tim Whulling, on behalf of the Transition Town-All St. Anthony Park planning group

And more . . .

The Land Use Committee of the St. Anthony Park Community Council recognizes and appreciates the efforts Ecumen has made to listen and respond to the neighborhood's concerns about the proposed development of property currently owned by Luther Seminary.

This development would be the largest our neighborhood has experienced in decades. It proposes a senior cooperative located at Como Avenue and Luther Place as well as affordable to market-rate apartments and a "living with services" building at Como Avenue and Eustis Street. Neighbors have expressed great interest and a desire for input on how

this development should proceed.

Ecumen has demonstrated a spirit of cooperation. They have made efforts to include residents in the planning process by means of community meetings as well as the promise of an advisory committee, with monthly reporting to the community through the Community Council as this process moves forward.

For the best overall result, we hope Ecumen and the Seminary will give due consideration to the ideas and concerns from members of the community. Ecumen has responded positively to the Land Use Committee's recently issued development guidelines (<http://www.sapcc.org/land-use-committee>).

We welcome Ecumen's continued cooperation. Their representatives will meet monthly with our committee to keep us and the community up-to-date on plans and progress. Our regular meetings are on first Thursdays at 7 p.m. (publicized on our website and the

Thank you for supporting the Park Bugle

We've raised one-third of our \$36,000 goal for the Park Bugle's 2015-16 fund drive. Thanks to the following Park Bugle readers who have contributed. This list reflects those who gave from through Nov. 7. We'll publish more donors in the next issue. The nonprofit Bugle relies on tax-deductible donations to help defray the newspaper's annual operating costs. If you haven't had a chance to donate, you still can by going online at www.parkbugle.org. Click the green DONATE NOW button on the right side of the page. Or send a check to Park Bugle, P.O. Box 8126, St. Paul, MN 55108. Thank you!

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Cheri Fiola
Jean Forsberg
Helen Foster
Dan & Virginia Frenzel
Nancy Fruen
Fred & Barb Gaiser
Sandra Godden
Granger Family
Willa Dean Gray
Michael Griffin & Martha Nicoloff
Shaul Hanany
Barbara Hartwick

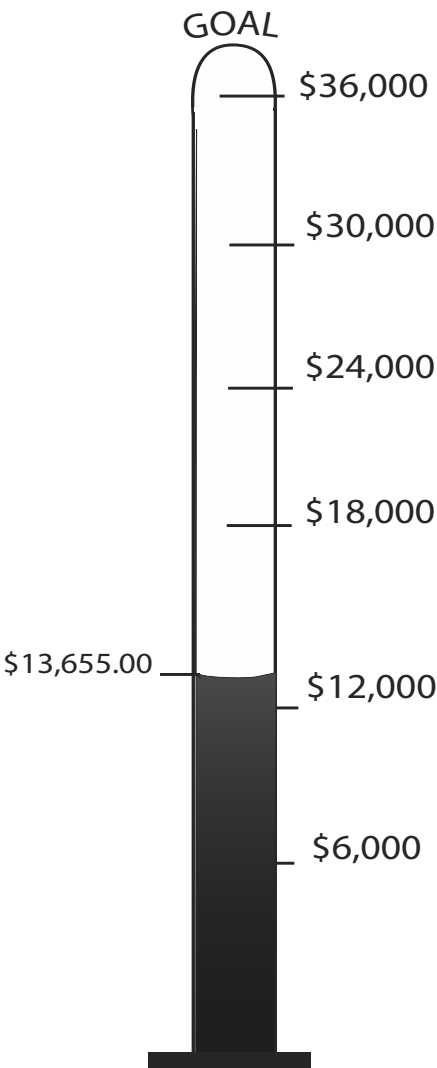
Dan Healy
Robert & Carolyn Herman
James Herrick
Lynn Hessler
Gordon & Louella Hirsch
Mollie Hoben
Florence Holmsten
Cynthia Howard
Joanne Howe
Bill Huth & Sally McGuire-Huth
Susan Hutterer
Mike Hvidsten & Rebekah Richards
Ross Jackson & Elizabeth Wilson
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Christopher Kalla & Judy Grew
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Marty Neus & Beth Breidel
Paul Nyquist
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Terra Firma Building & Remodeling
Thrivent Financial for Lutheran
Foundation



A cuppa joe for the Bugle

You've got until Monday, Nov. 30, to support the Bugle by purchasing a beverage at Sunrise Banks' charitable coffee bar, Park Perks. The 2300 Como Ave. bank branch has dedicated the profits from November sales at the coffee bar to the Bugle. Each month, Sunrise designates an area nonprofit to benefit from the coffee sales. Now go get a cup of coffee.



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Affordable housing 101

As housing development increases in the area, we take a look at what “affordable housing” means.

By Judy Woodward

There is a rule of thumb that says your housing costs—whether you’re a pauper or a plutocrat—should not exceed 30 percent of your income. That’s the simple part of the definition of affordable housing. Beyond that, things get more complicated.

Affordable housing is in the news these days in the Bugle area, as residential building of all kinds is increasing along the Green Line on University Avenue and several new housing projects have been proposed in north St. Anthony Park, at least one of which will be ready for occupancy in 2016. Some of these projects will include affordable housing units that have reduced rates for those making less than median incomes.

When it comes to housing, however, “affordable” isn’t just a synonym for “low-cost.”

Neil Reardon of Urbanworks Architecture, the firm responsible for the proposed “micro-unit” complex to be located behind Carleton Lofts at University Avenue and Carleton Place, emphasized that his will be a

market-rate project. Rents for the units will average around \$800, less than the typical cost for the area, but that is because the apartments themselves will run between 350 to 400 square feet in size, far below the norm for even the smallest conventional apartment.

What defines “affordable”?

Housing must meet strict legal definitions set by the federal and state government to qualify for subsidized rents, according to Patty Lilledahl, director of housing for the City of St. Paul. The definition of who is eligible for affordable housing depends to a great extent on the financial underpinnings of a particular housing project, Lilledahl says.

Depending on which of several state or federal funding mechanisms are used to create new housing, an affordable unit may be defined as one that costs no more than 30 percent of the income of those making at least 60 percent of the median income of the Twin Cities area. Some projects have much more stringent requirements, setting aside units for those making only 30 percent of the area median income. And, in a few

cases, families and individuals can qualify with incomes up to 80 percent of the median.

To further complicate things, the income definitions change annually and the resulting rents that can be charged are tied to family size. A family of four this year could qualify for affordable housing at the 60 percent level if they earned less than \$51,960 annually. A single person would have to earn less than \$36,420 to qualify for the same subsidy.

The portion of the rent payable by the tenant depends on income and family size, with government subsidies picking up the rest of the unit’s fair market rental rate, which is fixed at \$996 a month for a two-bedroom unit. As a comparison, the average two-bedroom apartment rented for \$1,190 in the Twin Cities area, according to an August 2015 survey by the Minneapolis-St. Paul Rent Monitor.

The demand for affordable housing is huge, Lilledahl says. There are 20,000 households in St. Paul living in extreme poverty, but there are only 7,490 housing units currently available to those who

make less than 30 percent of the median income, she says.

In years gone by, affordable housing was sometimes constructed in the form of massive, government-financed housing projects. “The projects” often led to isolation and segregation of the residents by income and race, and they are no longer the preferred model. Instead, modern affordable housing is often the result of collaboration between public and private funding agencies and developers. In return for subsidies from an alphabet-soup range of public-interest funding sources, as well as carefully calibrated tax relief, private developers agree to reserve a percentage of the units available to those who can’t afford market rate, and blocks of designated affordable units are set aside in what are otherwise market-rate building projects.

An example of such a “mixed-use” building project is 2700 University Ave., a \$54 million housing-and-shopping complex going up just over the St. Paul city line at the edge of south St. Anthony Park. In their promotional materials, developers Flaherty & Collins stress

their environmentally friendly building practices and the proximity of the new units to the Green Line, but they also call attention to luxury features, such as the planned fitness center, free Wi-Fi, 9-foot ceilings and the 3,000 square feet that will be devoted to a “storefront amenity space.” Twenty percent of the units there, says Lilledahl, will be reserved for tenants making no more than 50 percent of the median Twin Cities income.

Lilledahl allows herself a small measure of pride in the outcome, calling 2700 University a “good project” from the standpoint of the St. Paul Housing Department.

New HUD regulations

Last summer, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) introduced a new element into the affordable housing mixture: new regulations warning that federal housing funds could be in jeopardy if states do not act to reduce concentrations of affordable housing in racially segregated and low-income areas.

Lilledahl’s response to the new regulations is to describe what she calls “two schools of thought.” Her office recognizes the importance of “investing in place,” which means supporting pre-existing affordable housing buildings; but the Housing Department is also committed to expanding affordable housing in new directions. The HUD regulations urge communities to “strike a balance” between the two, she says.

One example of continued investment in place is the Como by the Lake Senior Housing project located near the Como Park Zoo and Conservatory. Currently, a little more than half the units are designated affordable housing, but the 30-year-old government contract that guaranteed those rates was set to expire in the next few months, raising the possibility that rents would be allowed to rise and creating fear and uncertainty among the elderly tenants. After her office worked to reach a satisfactory resolution of the problem, Lilledahl notes with satisfaction that nonprofit Minneapolis-based developer Aeon has signed a purchase agreement to acquire the building.

Aeon spokesperson Alicia Cordes-Mayo confirms that the new owners are committed to “keeping Como by the Lake affordable senior housing. . . . [We] support the residents and the pricing that’s already there.”

Obviously, keeping low-income seniors in their homes is a crucial priority for affordable housing, but what about the admonition to spread affordable housing to higher income areas of lower racial concentration?

According to Lilledahl, the St. Anthony Park and Como Park areas are already classified as “non-impacted areas of minority concentration,” meaning that the

Community Worship Directory



❖ LIVING WORD ANTIOCH CHURCH

A multicultural conservative Lutheran church
Meeting at Falcon Heights City Hall
At the intersection of Cleveland and Larpenteur
9:30 a.m. Sunday School, 10:30 a.m. Worship
5 p.m. adult Bible study fellowship
Affiliated LCMC/NALC
Perry Toso, Pastor
Barson Mahafaly, Associate Pastor

❖ LYDIA PLACE COLLABORATIVE COMMUNITIES ELCA

Rev Scott Simmons, pastor, 612-859-1134, lydiaplace.com
Hymntap beer and hymns, first Monday of each month
7 p.m. Dubliner Pub, 2162 W. University Ave. 55114
Sunday Worship, 7 p.m., Dow Art Gallery,
2242 W. University Ave., St. Paul, MN 55114

❖ PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH—ELCA

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

❖ SPIRIT UNITED CHURCH

3204 S.E. Como Ave., Minneapolis, 612-378-3602, www.spiritunited.com
Sundays: 10:30 a.m. Message and Music. Kids With Spirit Sunday School.
December 24, 4:30 p.m.: Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.
Music and readings. All welcome!
December 31, New Year’s Eve Celebration
7 p.m.-midnight: 3 Kirtan Bands. Donation
Come as you are. Handicapped accessible. All are welcome.
A leading-edge spiritual community emphasizing the Unity of Spirit—one Source in all.

❖ ST. CECILIA’S CATHOLIC CHURCH

2357 Bayless Place, 651-644-4502
Website: www.stceciliaspn.org
Handicapped accessible
Saturday Mass: 5 p.m. at the church
Sunday Masses: 8:15 a.m. and 10 a.m. at the church

❖ ST. ANTHONY PARK UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

2129 Commonwealth Ave. (corner of Commonwealth and Chelmsford)
651-646-7173 www.sapucc.org
9:15 a.m. Christian education for all ages; 10:30 a.m. worship
Pastor: Victoria Wilgocki
Christian tradition ♦ Progressive faith ♦ All are welcome
Dec. 1, 6 p.m. Potluck & Advent Workshop
Dec. 24, 4 p.m. Family Service
10 p.m. Candlelight Service

❖ ST. ANTHONY PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A Reconciling Congregation. All are welcome!
www.sapumc.org, 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
Family Candlelight Christmas Eve Service - 5 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 24

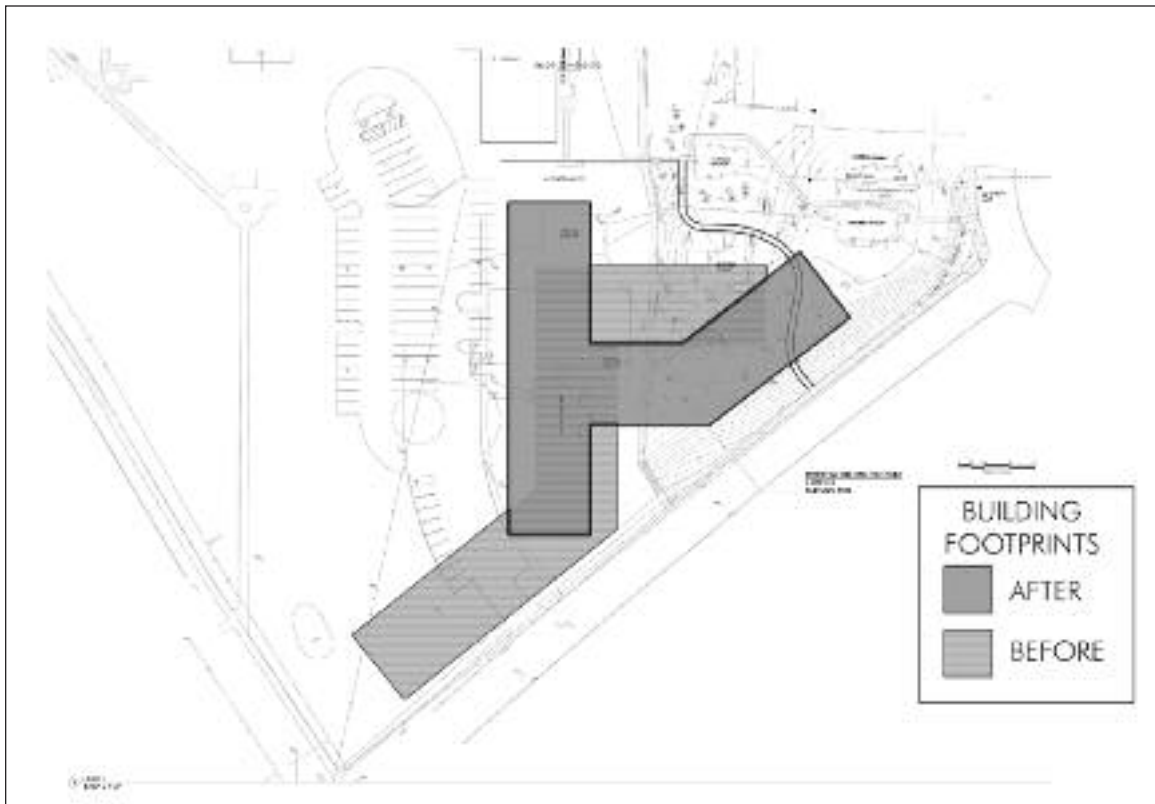
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Worship: 8:30 & 11 a.m., Education for all 9:45 a.m.
Wednesday Community Dinner: 5-6:30 p.m.
Christmas Eve Worship: 3:30, 5 & 10 p.m.
Christmas Day Worship: 10 a.m.
Sunday, December 27: 10 a.m.

❖ ST. MATTHEW’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Rev. Blair Pogue, Rector, 2136 Carter at Chelmsford. www.stmatthewsmn.org
Sundays 9:15 a.m. Education Hour for all ages
10:30 a.m. Worship and communion
5:30 p.m. Night Prayer and 6:30 p.m. Dinner
Dec. 5-6 Blue House Boutique - handmade, artisanal gifts to support the
Girls of Uganda, Saturday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Sunday: 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
Dec. 24 4 p.m. Children’s Living Creche – Service with communion
10 p.m. Candlelight Service with full choir and communion
Dec. 25 10:30 a.m. Christmas Day service with communion

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



This drawing shows the original site plan (lighter shade) for the senior housing co-op along Luther Place, the street on the east end of Luther Seminary's campus. New plans have the building on the site north of the current parking lot where three seminary houses now stand.

Ecumen revises senior co-op site plan, forming neighborhood design group

By Kristal Leebrick

Matt McNeill, director of business development for senior housing developer Ecumen, gave an overview of the company's efforts to work with the St. Anthony Park community on site plans for a senior housing cooperative on Nov. 5 at the District 12 Land Use Committee meeting.

The nonprofit developer is negotiating with Luther Seminary to buy two tracts of land on the seminary campus to build an owner-occupied co-op on the east end of the campus and an apartment building and memory-care facility at the west end.

Ecumen presented plans and renderings for the three

developments at an open house on Sept. 24 and at the District 12 Land Use Committee meeting on Oct. 1. Neighborhood opposition to the proposed 60-unit co-op prompted Ecumen to hold a series of community workshops in October to gather input from area residents.

After the initial workshop, Ecumen revised the site plan for the Luther Place co-op (see the accompanying map). The new plan moves the proposed three-story building to the property just behind the current parking lot, where three seminary houses now stand. The number of units in the building has been lowered to 53-55 units. The new site plan preserves green space at the corner of Como Avenue and

Luther Place, preserves St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church's access to a parking lot at the site, preserves views to and from Bockman Hall on the campus, and removes a proposed parking lot entrance on Como Avenue at Valentine Avenue, which a number residents felt would be unsafe.

Ecumen is now working on "how it will look and fit into the neighborhood," McNeill said. The developer is forming a group of residents who will work with the development team as the project is designed. Tom Fisher, former dean of the University of Minnesota College of Design and a St. Anthony Park resident, will be part of that team.

St. Anthony Park Como 2030 revisited

With new development proposed in St. Anthony Park, we take a look at the frequently mentioned Como 2030 plan. Just what is it?

By Anne Holzman

The changes of land use in the works on the Luther Seminary campus and Healy Building site along Como Avenue in St. Anthony Park appear to be the first major projects opened up by Como 2030, an addendum to St. Paul's city plan that altered zoning along some stretches of Como Avenue to "traditional neighborhood" uses.

Adopted by the city in 2011, Como 2030 was requested and proposed by the St. Anthony Park Community Council (District 12), then revised by city leaders before final approval. It guides zoning, traffic, streetscaping and other development choices for properties along Como Avenue, from just west of Eustis Street to the point where Como Avenue meets the state fairgrounds at Cathlin Street.

The idea of Como 2030 was to envision a change of direction for the

aging infrastructure of "downtown" St. Anthony Park—and the aging population that went with it—and to revive the neighborhood with denser housing and more vibrant business uses. The plan also calls for improved transportation options, emphasizing walking, biking and public transit.

Other aspects of the plan include environmentally sustainable architecture, preservation of wetlands and the inclusion of public gathering places.

As a result of Como 2030 (and the subsequent enactment of its zoning), the Healy Building site at the corner of Doswell and Como avenues, where a 24-unit market-rate apartment building will be constructed starting soon, is now zoned Traditional Neighborhood 2 (TN2), which allows a mix of single- and multiple-family housing, retail, services, and limited production and processing. The Luther Seminary

parcel, which Ecumen has proposed developing parts of, is a Traditional Neighborhood 1 zone, with mixed uses but more restricted options than TN2.

John Seppanen, who serves on the community council's Land Use Committee, said that when owner Ned Wesenberg approached the committee with a plan to build an apartment building at the Healy Building site, Como 2030 guided their recommendation that the city accept the proposal.

"They were asking for variances," Seppanen said. "We used Como 2030 as reason to give those variances."

The St. Anthony Park Community Foundation, business leaders, residents and city planning staff worked with the community council to draft the plan.

Como 2030 revisited to 8



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Family concert part of WindSync St. Anthony Park music residency

Hailed as “revolutionary chamber musicians,” the Houston-based wind quintet WindSync will be in residence in St. Anthony Park Nov. 20-23.

WindSync will perform a chamber concert, a family concert, and outreach performances. Playing exclusively from memory, WindSync engages audiences of all ages with creative and interactive concerts that incorporate elements of theater.

The Music in the Park Series Family Concert takes place on Friday, Nov. 20, at 6:30 p.m. at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, 2323 Como Ave. In the program “Oh, the Places You’ll Go,” inspired by the writing of Dr. Seuss, WindSync will take the audience on a musical and emotion-filled journey. Participants will learn about the sounds of the instruments, the teamwork of musicians and your own potential to grow, change and conquer adversity.

The concert is co-presented by the Schubert Club/Music in the Park Series and St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church. No tickets are required, but donations will be accepted.



Wind quintet WindSync will perform a free family concert at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church on Friday, Nov. 20.

Music in the Park Series will present WindSync in a chamber music concert on Sunday, Nov. 22, at 4 p.m. at St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ, 2129 Commonwealth Ave., with a 3 p.m. pre-concert discussion.

There are a limited number of tickets left. You can order online at schubert.org/musicinthepark or call 651-292-3268.

This residency is supported by the Arts Midwest Touring Fund, a

program of Arts Midwest that is funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, with additional contributions from the Minnesota State Arts Board, the Crane Group and General Mills Foundation.

WindSync’s Music in the Park Series residency is also supported by the Saint Anthony Park Community Foundation, Trillium Foundation, Elmer L. and Eleanor J. Andersen Foundation and Boss Foundation.

Housing from 6

racial mixture of the residents meets target goals. Although Como Park has some areas of concentrated poverty, St. Anthony Park does not. Does this mean that there will be an effort to establish more affordable housing in St. Anthony Park?

“The city would strive to support developers who would build affordable rental housing of all types in St. Anthony Park,” says Lilledahl.

Jon Commers, Metropolitan Council District 14 representative, says, “We have a lot of stable institutions in the Bugle [readership] area, making this an attractive prospect for people seeking affordable [options].” Commers talked about the “interest in infill” in our area, where urbanized open spaces are repurposed for affordable housing structures. The proposed

Ecumen project, which would locate senior residential housing on the campus of Luther Seminary, is one example of possible infill. Ecumen’s plans include a 121-unit apartment building across from HealthPartners at Como Avenue and Eustis Street 20 percent of which would include 20 percent affordable rate units.

Both Commers and Lilledahl agree, however, that there’s a long road between a proposed project and a finished residential building.

“There is a process for input” by community members before any housing project is finalized, Lilledahl says.

In the case of the Ecumen project, plans call for three proposed buildings. Issues related to the footprint of the project have drawn the attention of the neighborhood

and several rounds of community meetings have focused on the many questions related to bringing a project of such size to the leafy Seminary campus. As a result, Ecumen has visibly altered its plans in response to residents’ feedback. And there may be other changes to come as the project works its way through the lengthy process of seeking neighborhood consensus.

Illustrating the complicated course of the planning process, Lilledahl says, “There is no proposal in front of me at this point on the Ecumen Project.”

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

Como 2030 from 7

Community council committees continue to refer to Como 2030 while debating proposals that come before them.

Seppanen, who served on the community council during the Como 2030 process and recently stepped down, said the plan grew out of neighborhood priorities but reflects changes made by City of St. Paul staff and council, as well. “It’s a city document that we helped infuse with the character of the neighborhood,” he said.

Parties responsible for carrying out various aspects of the plan include the city’s departments of planning and economic development, parks, public works, and safety and inspections.

City planner Allan Torstenson,

who lives in the neighborhood and worked on the plan, said many details in the plan require more than rule enforcement. He said Como 2030 includes “community character strategies and commercial vitality strategies ... ongoing things that regularly affect many individual efforts and little decisions,” such as the work of attracting new businesses to complement those already on the block.

Seppanen cited the Transition Town movement as a neighborhood project that is separate from the plan but is a similar “outgrowth of the community” that “expresses Como 2030.”

Land Use Committee member Roger Purdy said that while it’s hard to pin down particular projects as

effects of the plan, the existence of Como 2030 as a city document might help move some projects forward. For example, he said, Como 2030 “was part of the impetus to getting the bike lanes striped” on Como Avenue.


Another item from the plan that Purdy would like to see happen is a shuttle bus, now that the Green Line light rail is running, that would connect neighbors with the trains and perhaps also “make it easier for seniors at the [proposed] Eustis/Como [senior housing] site to get to downtown St. Anthony Park.”

Anne Holzman is a former resident of St. Anthony Park who visits frequently from Bloomington.

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City and U of M join forces to regenerate oaks in Como Park

By Roger Bergerson

If you've driven through the Lexington Parkway/Como Avenue intersection on the eastern edge of Como Regional Park lately, you may have noticed what appear to be clusters of white stakes near the Como Pool.

These are actually "grow tubes" protecting and nurturing native white and bur oak seedlings that one day, it is hoped, will become part of the park's tree canopy.

"Our primary goal is to use this method in urban forest regeneration and to provide research and outreach that give communities additional options for replanting in parks, boulevards and other public areas," said Chad Giblin, research fellow, Department of Forest Resources, University of Minnesota.

The project is a joint partnership between the university and City of St. Paul and comes at a time of particular stress for the urban forest in general, given factors such as aging oak populations and the anticipated devastation of the emerald ash borer, as well as storm damage and the effects of intensive human use in the park.

Giblin said the grow tube technology has been in use for a long time but has been improved significantly in recent years and, in the case of oaks in particular, may be a more successful approach to establishing trees than the traditional balled-and-burlapped or containerized nursery stock.



Members of the Oak Regeneration Project team include, from left: Chad Giblin, research fellow, Department of Forest Resources, University of Minnesota; St. Paul Parks and Recreation employees Zach Jorgenson, urban forester; Lauren Stuft, natural resource technician; and Dan Anderson, urban forester; Rebecca Bies, undergraduate research assistant, Department of Forest Resources, University of Minnesota; and Joe Lais, CEO, Plantra Inc., the manufacturer of the grow tubes.

The color of the tube enhances the light wavelength transmitted for optimum plant growth, said Giblin, and the tube also stimulates stem development by allowing multidirectional movement.

The seedlings are planted in clusters to help reduce soil compaction around them, increase water retention and provide some additional physical protection. A few years from now, a decision will be

made about which of them will be transplanted to other locations.

In addition to Como Park, there are related oak-regeneration projects at the Trout Brook Nature Sanctuary in St. Paul, at Lake Nokomis in Minneapolis and Lions Park in Shakopee.

Roger Bergerson writes about history and community news regularly in the Park Bugle.



Town and Country Club at 300 N. Mississippi Boulevard, St. Paul, spent the first of its 125 years just south of Lake Como in the rented residence shown here. Photo courtesy of the Minnesota Historical Society

Town and Country Club began near Lake Como 125 years ago

By Roger Bergerson

The first country club in this area is celebrating its 125th anniversary near the Marshall Avenue bridge over the Mississippi River in St. Paul.

But the Town and Country Club actually got its start in 1897 in

a rented residence just south of Lake Como. It was located on land that is now part of Como Park, where northbound Como Avenue takes its bend to the west, just past the railroad crossing.

A description on the back of the above photo states: "The rooms of

the clubhouse at Lake Como are headquarters for those who delight in boating, tennis and skating, and for participants in the sports of St. Paul's winter carnival, as well as for the pleasant social reunions of the club."

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By Alex Lodner

It's the time of year that calls for flames in the fireplace, extra blankets and warm foods to prepare us for the chill of the evening. If you're looking to venture away from the hearth, here's a comfort-food tour of local eateries that offer the dishes we crave when the nights get cooler and the days get oh-so-much shorter.

Muffuletta

2260 Como Ave., St. Anthony Park
One of Muffuletta's signature dishes is the 1977 Beer Cheese Soup, a creamy and satisfying bowl topped with fresh popped corn. This season, make sure to also try the popular Walleye Chowder, a Manhattan-style, tomato-base soup with local wild rice and smoky bacon, served with grilled bread.



Como Dockside

1360 N. Lexington Parkway,
Como Park

Como Dockside specializes in stick-to-your-ribs New Orleans-style items like Po' Boys, gumbo and mussels. Dockside's Black-eyed Pea Cake appetizer, with corn relish and bourbon apple butter, is a little sweet, a little savory and a great vegetarian option in an otherwise meat-heavy menu. Como Dockside is open year round for breakfast, lunch and dinner and is now moving to full table service.

Urban Growler

2325 Endicott St. St. Anthony Park

The Urban Growler is known for its seasonal craft brews like the popular Coconut Porter or Pumpkin Saison, but did you know the brewery serves one of the most crave-worthy desserts around? The oozy, molten De-Lovely brownie is made with Urban Growler's De-Lovely Porter, topped with whipped cream and drizzled with a warm caramel sauce. It will make you swoon, guaranteed.

Colossal Café

2315 Como Ave., St. Anthony Park

It's a no-brainer. A snowy Minnesota morning calls for Colossal's yeasty, doughy, heavenly flappers. The Apple Walnut and Brie Flappers—yeast-based pancakes topped with honey and brown-sugar syrup, apple slices, walnuts and creamy Brie—will stick with you for the long haul, and even the short stack is easily shareable. Pair with a bottomless cup of True Stone coffee and conquer the day.

Paddy Shack

1013 Front Ave., Como Park

You don't need windows when it's bitter cold outside, so huddle inside the Como Park neighborhood's most iconic bar, Half Time Rec and nosh on Paddy Shack's quintessential Irish comfort dishes. Try the Beer Cheese Mac served with mushy peas and add lobster meat for a bit of flair. This is not your mom's mac and cheese.

Foxy Falafel

791 Raymond Ave., St. Anthony Park

Nothing thwarts off the chill like a spicy kick in your lunch and Foxy Falafel can help. Choose any of Foxy's falafel sandwiches (or try all three flavors with the Stoplight combo sandwich) and drizzle liberally with spicy harissa sauce, a smoky, garlicky touch that is not too much for our Midwestern blood. Add a side of Ellsworth Creamery's white cheese curds tossed with dill and served with local honey for a little reminder of warmer days.

Finnish Bistro

2264 Como Ave., St. Anthony Park

On blustery days, sometimes we just want to stay in bed. If you must leave the house, at least indulge in Finnish Bistro's all-day breakfast. Carbo-load with the Pulla French Toast, made with their hearty, slightly sweet cardamom raisin bread, topped with sliced almonds, powdered sugar, syrup, fresh berries and whipped cream. It may seem a bit sacrilegious, but the reindeer sausage (which also includes pork and beef) is a nice addition of protein.



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Sunday, Dec. 7

Noon-3 p.m.

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Festive fun



A guide to shopping, Santa and song

SHOP HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS, St. Anthony Park's annual celebration in the business district along Como Avenue, will be held Saturday, Dec. 5. The day's activities include strolling carollers; reindeer-pulled sleigh rides and Santa photo-ops at Sunrise Bank, 2300 Como Ave., 9 a.m.-noon; cookie decorating at Tim and Tom's Speedy Market, 2310 Como Ave., 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; a wine tasting at the Little Wine Shoppe, 2236 Carter Ave., 1-4 p.m.; and Mischief Toys, 2290 Como Ave., will have hot cider and cookies on hand and free glitter tattoos. The Best Holiday Sale Ever will be in the lower level of Milton Square from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. The occasional shop, Thistle, in Milton Square will be open all weekend.

SANTA, SANTA, SANTA: You've got three opportunities to see the jolly old elf in St. Anthony Park the first weekend in December. St. Paul Parks and Recreation will host a dinner with Santa and Mrs. Claus on Friday, Dec. 4, 5:30-7 p.m. at Langford Park Recreation Center, 30 Langford Park. The event will include a spaghetti dinner, a craft project, cookie decorating and face-painting. Cost is \$5 per person. Register at any St. Paul recreation center or call 651-298-5765. Register online at www.stpaul.gov/parks.

On Saturday, Dec. 5, Santa and some of his elves and reindeer will be at Sunrise Bank on Como Avenue, 9 a.m.-noon, on Saturday, Dec. 5. He'll be hanging out at Milton Square with Christmas Carol about 4:30 p.m. to light the Christmas tree in the courtyard at 5 p.m.

LOOKING FOR A HANDMADE GIFT? The Best Holiday Sale Ever! will be held two days, Saturday, Dec. 5, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 6, noon-3 p.m., in the lower level of Milton Square. Local artists will be selling paintings, pottery, guitars crafted by Lee Acoustics, handmade hats and purses, quilts and aprons, wreaths and holiday greens, gourmet cookies, Christmas ornaments, jewelry, accessories, home décor, quirky photos, greeting cards, felted tapestries, vessels and woolen creatures, and other surprises. There will be a number of new artists this year.

Ginkgo Coffeehouse, 721 N. Snelling Ave., will hold its annual art and craft fair on Saturday, Dec. 5,

Festive fun to 12

SHOP HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

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◆ MILTON SQUARE ◆ Tree Lighting in courtyard with Santa and Christmas Carol — 5:00

<p>SHOP NORTH</p> <p>The Bibelot Shop Carter Avenue Frame Shop Como Raymond BP Como Rose Travel Complexions on Carter Emil Gustafson Jeweler Luther Seminary Bookstore Mischief Toys Thistle</p>	<p>WINE & DINE NORTH</p> <p>Braegger's Bagels Dum Bros Coffee Colossal Cafe Finnish Bistro Lady Elegant's Tea Room the little wine shoppe Lori's Coffee Mim's Café Mullulesta Pho 79 Tim and Tom's Speedy Market</p>	<p>SHOP SOUTH</p> <p>Acupuncture with Cadance Agharta Records Barclay Bros. Records Classic Retro@Pete's Hampden Park Co-op J Ring Glass MidModMen+friends Noll Hardware Shag Succotash Twin Cities Regalia</p>	<p>WINE & DINE SOUTH</p> <p>Bang Brewery Bonnie's Café Café Biaggio Chocolate Celeste The Dubliner Pub Dum Bros Coffee Egg & I Foxy Falafel Keys Shattell's Liquors Urban Growler Brewery Workhorse Coffee Bar</p>
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Festive fun from 11

9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. The fair will host 15 local artists, whose products include handmade glass beads, knit and felted items, quilted products, wooden items, metal sculptures, chain maille and other types of jewelry, and more.

BLUE HOUSE BOUTIQUE: Check out this unique boutique on Saturday, Dec. 5, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 6, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 2136 Carter Ave. The boutique is a major fundraiser for the Blue House, an orphanage in Uganda. Saturday's sale features a homemade lunch (from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.), coffee and pastries.

The sale will include gourmet goodies, a Christmas shop, pottery, knit accessories, jewelry, purses, fun baby and kid stuff, greeting cards, kitchen items, new African crafts and a raffle for a lace shawl.

YULEFEST, YULETIDE SING & HOLIDAY HOOLEY: Celtic Junction, 836 N. Prior Ave., has three holiday events coming up in December:

Yulefest VIII, a benefit for the Food Group, will be held Friday, Dec. 5, at 7 p.m. The evening includes an all-Irish lineup with Barra, the Hi-Bs, Patsy O'Brien and the Eddies and a silent auction. All proceeds from the fest will go toward stocking food shelves in Minnesota. A \$15 donation will be requested at the door.

Charlie Heymann's Yuletide Sing, with special guests Paddy

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O'Brien and Erin Hart, Tom Klein, Shawn McBurnie and Hannah Flowers, will be held Sunday, Dec. 12, at 5 p.m. The program promises a mix of rare and popular seasonal songs and tunes to sing. All ages are welcome. Admission is \$10 at the door.

Celtic Holiday Hooley—a family-friendly event—will be held two nights, Friday, Dec. 18, and Saturday, Dec. 19. The evening will include traditional folk music by Aidín Ní Shé, Todd Menton, Cory Froelich, Cormac O'Se and John Wright; Irish step dance by the O'Shea Irish Dancers; Christmas carols; cute kids; mulled wine and popcorn; and Santa! Doors will open at 7 p.m. and the show will start at 7:30 p.m. Advance tickets are \$15; tickets will be \$18 at the door. A \$50 family ticket covers two adults and up to three children under 18. For tickets, visit thecelticjunction.com.

COMMUNITY CAROL SING-ALONG: Members of the Roseville String Ensemble will host their annual Community Carol Sing-Along Monday, Dec. 7, 7:30-8:30 p.m. at Centennial United Methodist Church, 1524 W. County Road C2. The group will be under the direction of Joel Johnson and accompanied by Karen Johnson. The evening will feature special guests Finn Hall.

Everyone's invited to venture out for an evening of music and singing to celebrate the holidays. Admission is free. Nonperishable goods will be collected for a local food shelf. In the event of severe weather, check the Roseville String Ensemble website, www.rosevillestrings.org, for cancellation updates.

Festive fun to 14

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Festive fun



Festive fun from 13

HO HO HO DOWN: Join in the fun at a free country-and-western holiday party at North Dale Recreation Center, 1414 N. St. Albans St., on Thursday, Dec. 10, 5:30-7:30 p.m. There will be food, square dancing and other activities, including a visit with Santa.

IT'S THAT CHRISTMAS SAUSAGE TIME AGAIN: Every year Tim Faacks at Tim & Tom's Speedy Market, 2310 Como Ave. W., cranks out more than 2,000 pounds of the Lindquist family's Christmas sausage. The Christmas sausage comes from a secret recipe handed down to Faacks by the family of Harry Lindquist, a butcher in Minneapolis from the 1920s to the 1960s. Lindquist was the grandfather of St. Anthony Park residents Dave and Mark Hansen, who own Hansen Tree Farm.

A COMO CHRISTMAS TEA: Como Park Zoo and Conservatory continues its tradition of offering a three-course holiday tea that includes a behind-the-scenes tour in the Marjorie McNeely Conservatory. This year's tea will have two seatings, at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., on Thursday, Dec. 10.

The tea will be held in the conservatory's North Garden and will include savory petite sandwiches, and an assortment of desserts. Guests will get a tour of the building's production greenhouse space and Sunken Garden after the tea. Tickets are \$40 per person. Reservations are required. Call 651-487-8250.

ALL ABOARD THE NIGHT TRAINS: Night Trains is a holiday tradition at the Twin City Model Railroad Museum in Bandana Square, 1021 Bandana Boulevard, Suite 222. The show displays dozens of model railroad layouts with miniature Christmas lights and decorations. It runs every Saturday, 6-9 p.m., through Feb. 27. Admission is \$10 per person with special group rates for families. Find out more at www.tcmrm.org.

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Two local projects awarded Knight Arts Challenge grants

By Kyle Mianulli

Two Knight Arts Challenge grants were recently awarded to projects in the Creative Enterprise Zone (CEZ).

The CEZ represents the area bounded by Interstate 94 to the south, Prior Avenue on the east, the railroad tracks by Energy Park Drive to the north and Minneapolis to the west.

One project will see the water tower outside the American Can Building at 755 Prior Ave. transformed into a beacon for creativity that shines across the region. A stained-glass mural by artist Karl Unnasch will be wrapped around the top of the tower and backlit to create a stunning display that will mark the building and CEZ as a hub of creativity.

The other, awarded to poet, CEZ resident and CEZ Action Committee member Naomi Cohn, will build community and increase the well-being of older adults by engaging a professional writer to conduct high-quality arts activities with seniors.

Cohn is the creator of Known by Heart, a collaborative project that connects people at the intersection of poetry, memory and other art forms.

Working as a poet teaching people ages 70-90 in a senior high-rise in Minneapolis, Cohn says she's seen elders create amazing work and build community through art-making.



Naomi Cohn

"Art reduces isolation and depression for elders," she says. "When we overcome participation barriers, elders can create inspiring writing, fueled by a lifetime of experience."

Cohn will develop writing workshops for older adults in the CEZ, while working with local designers and artists to create poetry broadsides—giving a voice and visibility to elders in the community.

"I'm excited to bring work I love doing—helping older adults have a creative voice—into my own



A mockup of Karl Unnasch's water tower project.

community," she says. "I see this work as part of creating the kind of community that I want to grow old in myself."

Cohn's own poetry has been published widely, including in the *Star Tribune*, on National Public Radio, in various journals and other publications, and has been cemented into the sidewalks of St. Paul as part of the city's Sidewalk Poetry program.

She's also author of an urban watershed organizing handbook, *Voices of the Watershed*, and is a former editor of *Disclosure*, a national publication on community organizing. In addition to writing, Cohn has worked in several visual art media, from clay to sculpture to print-making to guerilla street art.

Cohn received a \$10,000 grant from the Knight Arts Challenge for her project.

With work on display in educational facilities, medical wings, banks, theater lobbies and public gathering spaces across the United States, Unnasch has pushed the possibilities of what can be done with stained-glass to new levels.

His whimsical style evokes a familiar sense of quirkiness that entertains, excites and stimulates his audience in clever ways. Unnasch mastered his craft in Winona, Minn., which has been dubbed "the Stained Glass Capital of the United States."

Over the years, his work has evolved from smaller display pieces, which have been exhibited across the world and received accolades in publications such as the *New York Times* and *Art in London Magazine*, to larger scale public installations. Though he still exhibits today, his focus is now on public and architectural art, for which he has received numerous awards.

Unnasch has developed some of his own techniques, such as the incorporation of reclaimed and slumped glassware into his work, and using sculpture and other media to evoke a broad range of impressions, from the dramatic and refined, to the playful and exuberant.

His work has appeared in rural communities to New York City. In all his public works, he charges himself with combining beauty and invention in ways that first identify with the local community, while also resonating with broader audiences.

Unnasch received \$50,000 from the Knight Arts Challenge for his project.

This article was excerpted from the Creative Enterprise Zone website. Read the full article at www.creativeenterprise-zone.org.

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DECEMBER

Events

Venue information is listed at the end of the calendar. Send your events to calendar@parkbugle.org by Wednesday, Dec. 2, to be included in the January issue.

1 TUESDAY

Baby/toddler story time, St. Anthony Park Library, 10:30-11 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.-noon.

"MINNESOTA STATE Horticultural Society: 150 Years of Helping Us Grow!" presented by Mary Maguire Lerman, St. Anthony Park Garden Club, St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 7 p.m. social time and refreshments, program 7:30-8:30 p.m., stanthonyparkgardenclub.com.

2 WEDNESDAY

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

St. Anthony Park Book Club, "Americanah" by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, 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.

Dialoggers Toastmasters meets every Thursday of the month, U of M St. Paul Campus, Northern Research Station, 1992 Folwell Ave., 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

4 FRIDAY

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

Dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Claus, Langford Park Rec Center, 5:30-7 p.m. Join Mr. and Mrs. Claus for a spaghetti dinner. Bring your camera and enjoy dinner, crafts, cookie decorating and face painting. \$5 per person, maximum cost per family is \$25. Children under the age of 2 are free. Call 651-298-5765 to register.

5 SATURDAY

Shop Home for the Holidays in St. Anthony Park. Merchant specials, Santa, and more (see pages 11-14 for more information), 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Blue House Boutique, St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday luncheon, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Handcrafted gifts and homemade treats.

The Best Holiday Sale Ever!, lower level Milton Square, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. New artists this year.

Craft fair, Ginkgo Coffeehouse, 721 N. Snelling Ave., 9 am-4:30 pm., www.ginkgocoffee.com.

Gifts, music and allergy-friendly refreshments at the ninth annual silent auction and concert to benefit the Anaphylaxis and Food Allergy Association of Minnesota, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church. Music by Murray Middle School Orchestra and Como Park Senior High School Jazz Band. Contact Jeff Schaefer or Nona Narvaez for more information, 651-644-5937.

Santa and Christmas Carol light the tree in Milton Square's courtyard, 5 p.m.

6 SUNDAY

Blue House Boutique, St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Best Holiday Sale Ever!, lower level Milton Square, noon-3 p.m.

7 MONDAY

The Old-Time Maker Series presents A Thousand Years of Spinning, Mondays in December, St. Anthony Park Library, 6:30-7:45 p.m. Interested spinners are encouraged to bring their wheels and spindles to explore the world of spinning.

The Roseville String Ensemble's annual Community Carol Sing-Along, Centennial United Methodist Church, 7:30-8:30 p.m. Admission is free. Non-perishable goods will be collected for a local food shelf. In case of bad weather, go to rosevillestrings.org for cancellation updates.

8 TUESDAY

Baby/toddler story time, St. Anthony Park Library, 10:30-11 a.m. and 11:30-noon.

10 THURSDAY

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

Dialoggers Toastmasters meets every Thursday of the month, UofM Northern Research Station, 1992 Folwell Ave., 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Ho Ho Ho Down, North Dale Rec Center, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Celebrate a country-western holiday party with food, square dancing and a visit with Santa. Free.

11 FRIDAY

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

14 MONDAY

Community Sing, Olson Campus Center, Luther Seminary, 6:30 p.m. gathering, 7-8:30 p.m. sing. The event is free, but a hat will be passed for our music leaders and to make the sings possible. Co-sponsored by the District 12 Community Council.

Renée Soberg and Donald Prohaska will lead a mini-workshop on divining with rods, Spirit United Church, 7-9 p.m. Sponsored by the Theosophical Society; \$10 suggested donation.

15 TUESDAY

Baby/toddler story time, SAP Library, 10:30-11 a.m. and 11:30-noon.

Rose Ensemble discussion and demonstration: "Christmas in Baroque Malta: Italian Majesty at Mdina Cathedral," St. Anthony Park Library, 7-9 p.m.

17 THURSDAY

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

Dialoggers Toastmasters meets every Thursday of the month, U of M Northern Research Station, 1992 Folwell Ave., 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

18 FRIDAY

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

Co-ed drum circle, Women's Drum Center, 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$10 at the door. Drums provided.

24 THURSDAY

St. Paul Public Libraries are closed.

25 FRIDAY

Christmas Day: St. Paul Public Libraries are closed.

30 WEDNESDAY

Winter break movie: "Inside Out," St. Anthony Park Library, 1-3 p.m.

31 THURSDAY

New Year's Eve: St. Paul Public Libraries are closed.

SENIOR EXERCISE

St. Anthony Park Area Seniors

Tuesdays and Fridays, St. Anthony Park Library, 2:30-3:30 p.m.

No exercise class on Friday, Dec. 25.

Wednesdays, St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Mondays and Thursdays, Lauderdale City Hall, 2-3 p.m.

Como Park/Falcon Heights Block Nurse Program

Tuesdays and Thursdays, Falcon

Heights Town Square Senior Apartments, 9:30-10:30 a.m. and Arbor Pointe Senior Apartment, 11 a.m.-noon

FREE SENIOR BLOOD PRESSURE CLINICS

St. Anthony Park Area Seniors:

Wednesdays, 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.

Centennial United Methodist Church, 1524 W. County Road C2, Roseville

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

Langford Park Rec Center, 30 Langford Park, 651-298-5765

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

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

North Dale Rec Center, 1414 N. St. Albans St., 651-558-2329

Northwest Como Rec Center, 1515 Hamline Ave., 651-298-5813

Olson Campus Center, Luther Seminary, 1490 Fulham St.

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

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

St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ, 2129 Commonwealth Ave., 651-646-7173

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

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

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Happy holidays from the Bugle staff





Neighbors

Spanish teacher awarded

Betty Lotterman of St. Anthony Park, who taught Spanish at Mounds View High School for 27 years, received the Emma Birkmaier Award from the Minnesota Council on the Teaching of Languages and Cultures (MCTLC). This award is named after Emma Birkmaier, a well-known professor of language pedagogy at the University of Minnesota.

MCTLC selects one teacher each year for this award based on his or her dedication to the profession, outstanding success in teaching languages in the classroom, and promotion of language learning over a lifetime of service.

Lotterman taught all levels of Spanish at Mounds View and served as department chair and faculty advisor to a number of school clubs. She served on the boards of the Minnesota chapter of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese and MCTLC.

Family concert Nov. 20

In collaboration with the Schubert Club and Music in the Parks Series, St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, 2323 Como Ave., will host a family music concert featuring WindSync Friday, Nov. 20, at 6:30 p.m. WindSync is known for creative and engaging performances. The concert is open to people of all ages, but especially children. Children will be invited to sit up close to experience the ensemble's performance and interact with the musicians. This concert will feature selections from Peter and the Wolf and many other fascinating pieces.

There are no tickets to purchase, but a free-will offering will be collected to offset costs for both the Schubert Club and the church.

Zion fall craft and bake sale

Zion Lutheran Church, 1697 Lafond Ave., will hold a craft and bake sale on Saturday, Nov. 21, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. The sale will include a raffle, bakery goods, crafts, needlework, recycled Christmas decorations and many other holiday items. Cookies and coffee and a \$4 light lunch will be available 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Call 651-645-0851 or visit www.zlcmidway.org for more information.

Support group for families

NAMI Minnesota (National Alliance on Mental Illness) sponsors free support groups for families that have a relative with a mental illness. Led by trained facilitators who also have a family member with mental illness, the support groups help families develop better coping skills and find strength through sharing their experiences.

A family support group meets in St. Paul at Goodwill Easter Seals, 553 N. Fairview Ave., Room 123, 6:30-8:30 p.m., on the fourth Tuesday of

the month. For information, call Jennifer at 507-254-5524 or 651-645-2948.

NAMI partner and spouse group meets twice a month

NAMI Minnesota sponsors a support group for partners or spouses of someone who lives with a mental illness that meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m., at Falcon Heights United Church of Christ, 1795 Holton St. (Holton & Garden). For more information, call Melissa at 651-354-0825.

A photographic safari

Ben Wilson will present "Wildlife of the Masai Mara," a photographic tour of his visit to the Masai Mara in Kenya in 2013 at the St. Paul Audubon Society meeting, Thursday, Dec. 10, at 7 p.m., at Fairview Community Center, 1910 W. County Road B, Roseville.

The Masai Mara National Reserve is a large game reserve in Narok County, Kenya, contiguous with the Serengeti National Park in Mara Region, Tanzania.

The Mara is famous for its exceptional population of Masai lions, African leopards and Tanzanian cheetahs and the Great Migration, the annual migration of zebra, Thomson's gazelle and wildebeest to and from the Serengeti every year. All members of the "Big Five" (lion, leopard, African elephant, African buffalo and black rhinoceros) are found in the Masai Mara.

More than 470 species of birds have been identified in the park, many of which are migrants, with almost 60 species being raptors. Birds that call this area home for at least part of the year include vultures, marabou storks, secretary birds, hornbills, crowned cranes, ostriches, long-crested eagles, African pygmy-falcons and the lilac-breasted roller, which is the national bird of Kenya.

Everyone is invited to this free program. A social time with refreshments begins at 6:45 p.m. Contact Linda Goodspeed at 651-647-1452 with any questions.

St. Paul Parks & Rec news

Register now for upcoming events and classes at North Dale, Northwest Como and Langford recreation centers:

North Dale
1414 N. St. Albans St.,
651-558-2329

Lego Minecraft Art Class, ages 5-12, Wednesday, Dec. 23, 1:30-3:30 p.m. Cost is \$25.

No School Days: Dec 28-30: Activities will vary each day. Please bring a lunch and beverage, snacks are provided. Space limited. Deadline to register is one week in advance or until the program is full. Fee is \$10.

Laughter Yoga, Pilates, Senior Fitness, Square Dance and Yoga

classes for adults and seniors are ongoing, as well as Tae Kwon Do for all ages.

On Dec. 10, North Dale will hold the **Ho Ho Ho Down**, a country-western holiday party. There will be food, square dancing and other activities, including a visit with Santa. The party runs from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. and is free.

Northwest Como
1515 Hamline Ave., 651-298-5813

How the Grinch Stole Christmas Art Class, ages 4-9, Wednesday, Dec. 23, 12:30-2:30 p.m. Cost is \$26.

Tae Kwon Do for ages 6 and older and **Senior Gamers** are ongoing activities at the rec center.

Langford
30 Langford Park, 651-298-5765

Winter Break Blast: Pre-register for these days of out-of-school fun. Space is limited and registration is taken first-come, first-served. Staff will lead activities in the gym and outside. Bring your own snack and beverage.

Holiday Ornament Making, ages 2-4, Thursday, Dec. 17, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Cost is \$18.

Babysitting Training, ages 11-17, Thursday, Dec. 23, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Cost is \$60.

Soo Babk Do, ages 5 and older, and Pilates and Badminton for adults are ongoing activities.

The annual **Dinner with Santa and Mrs. Claus** will be held Friday, Dec. 4, 5:30-7 p.m. Families are invited to join Mr. and Mrs. Claus for a spaghetti dinner and a craft, cookie decorating and face painting.

Cost is \$5 per person, with a maximum cost per family of \$25. Children under the age of 2 are free.



Alice Duggan (left) was named Garden Club Member of the Year by the Minnesota State Horticultural Society in October. Award winners are nominated by fellow community members for their outstanding contributions to horticulture and green efforts. The St. Anthony Park Garden Club has supported planting and maintenance of the gardens and window boxes at the St. Anthony Park Library for 20 years. Duggan organizes volunteers to do the planting, weeding and pruning of the grounds. Duggan is shown here with the Weekly Weeders: Carol Starkey, Pat Thompson, Verena Larson, Janet Kinney, Flo McNerney and Barb Sippel. *Photo by Mary Maguire Lerman, another WW.*

The Weekly Weeders

St. Anthony Park Garden Club's volunteer organizer, Alice Duggan, named Minnesota Horticultural Society's Garden Club Member of the Year

By Mary Maguire Lerman

A dedicated crew of weeders was seen this summer on Tuesday and Friday mornings toiling on the new garden addition at the library. Last winter, the St. Anthony Park Garden Club arranged for all the woody invasive and aggressive plants (including box elder, mulberry, buckthorn and honeysuckle) to be cut down and removed from the hillsides next to the children's wing. As a result, thousands of weed seeds that had been accumulating beneath these woody invaders sprouted.

Pickup truckloads of weeds were pulled and delivered to the compost site on Pierce Butler Road all season long.

A plan to create a large pollinator garden was hatched by the Weekly Weeders, who decided to consider the dome of the children's library as the sun and to begin planting "rays" of perennials out from the dome. While most of the season was spent weeding, a few perennial rays were installed. A large quantity of flowering perennials (many are native plants) will be ordered for a

major planting effort next spring. Stay tuned to this newspaper for future updates on the planting day. The public is invited to participate.

The Weekly Weeders encourage you to join the team. Please contact Alice Duggan, our Garden Club Member of the Year, at comeforteamn@gmail.com to be added to the Weekly Weeders roster.

In 2016 we will have both a morning and an evening volunteer crew so that more neighbors can participate. While the garden is done for the winter, we will meet occasionally during the snow season to plan for next year's garden additions.

We are ordering flats of the pollinator perennial plant packs (say that fast three times!) that the Minnesota State Horticultural Society is offering for sale during its 150th anniversary celebration in 2016. These plants will become the "rays" out from the library's sun dome. You can order these great plants to create a pollinator habitat in your own yard. Three separate packs of perennials are available in large

market packs. Each plant is close to a 3-inch pot size. One six-pack contains six species of milkweeds, which attracts monarchs. Another six-pack features five species of Blazingstars and blue lupine for butterflies. Finally, one six-pack includes six species to attract native and honey bees and includes the vanilla-scented clematis sourced from Ann Brey's garden on Gordon Avenue.

If you would like to order one or more of these pollinator market six-packs, you can place your order by Dec. 31 with the St. Anthony Park Garden Club. Why must you order by December? The seeds must go through several cold or warm treatments before they will germinate and then they need time to grow. By early June the plants will be well-established. The pollinator packs will be delivered for the garden club's annual plant sale held during the St. Anthony Park Arts Festival.

To order, contact Mary Maguire Lerman at magui011@umn.edu to arrange or call 651-644-7388.

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 at mary.mergenthal@gmail.com or call 651-644-1650.*

**Pearl Christenson**

Pearl Darlene Christenson, 86, of Arden Hills, died peacefully, surrounded by her family on Oct. 11. Born to the Rev. Oscar and Mrs. Olga Jacobson on Aug. 21, 1929, in Chicago, Pearl grew up in parsonages in Pinewood and Fertile, Minn., where she ran with her pack of pals, the "Crazy Eight."

Pearl graduated from St. Olaf College and taught English and music in Murdock, Long Prairie and Litchfield, Minn., where she met her future husband, Jerry Christenson, at a high school football game. As fellow teachers, they were passionate about learning and passed that along to their six children.

Pearl was a wonderful teacher and an accomplished pianist. She took her talents to the church, first as choir director for St. John's in New Brighton and later at St. Mary of the Lake in White Bear Lake, and always as music director extraordinaire for all Christenson family events.

Many congregants remember her as smartly dressed (those snazzy shoes!) with an engaging smile, joyfully inviting them to sing along. Pearl was interested in everyone, and all were drawn to her charisma, wisdom and unconditional love.

Grateful, loving and generous, she is remembered as a beloved daughter, a devoted wife, and an endlessly loving mother and grandmother. She was a joy-filled musician, a kind friend and neighbor. She relished her Norwegian heritage and her faith in the Lord.

Pearl is survived by five of her children, Carol (Rick Plunkett), Michael (Lis) of Falcon Heights, Tom, Becky and Karen, a science teacher at St. Anthony Park Elementary; son-in-law, Gordon Tolbert; and seven grandchildren, Chris and Andrew (Taylor) Tolbert, Will and Aria Christenson, and Alex,

Katie and Luke Plunkett; one great-grandson, Jackson; and a brother, Orville (Donnalee).

Pearl was preceded in death by her brother, Jim Jacobson, her husband, and daughter, Kathryn Tolbert.

Pearl's memorial service was held Oct. 24 at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church.

Robert Eriksen

Robert Eugene Eriksen, 92, died Oct. 30.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Lorraine, and siblings, Richard Eriksen and Geraldine Rood. He is survived by daughters, Claudia (Kenneth) Olson, Celeste (Bill) McCrum and Cheryl Holmberg; eight grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and brother, Gerald (Marlys) Norve.

A memorial service was held Nov. 6 at St. Timothy Lutheran Church in Como Park, with inurnment at Fort Snelling National Cemetery.

Eliza Herman

Eliza Morewood Herman, 44, of St. Paul, died Oct. 14.

A graduate of Macalester College, Eliza worked at the University of Minnesota in the Center for Farm Financial Management, Department of Applied Economics.

She is survived by her parents, Robert K. and Carolyn Herman, of St. Anthony Park, and sister, Tory Herman.

Barbara Hilgedick

Barbara R. Hilgedick, 82, of North Oaks died peacefully surrounded by family on Oct. 8. She was formerly a member of St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church and was active in the community when her husband, Dr. William Hilgedick, had an office on Como Ave.

Barbara graduated from St. Barnabas Nursing School as a registered nurse. She worked as a pediatric nurse before taking on her career as homemaker. Barbara was devoted to her husband of 59 years, children and grandchildren. She took

advantage of every day and lived life to the fullest. Her generosity and love for others was enormous.

Barbara was an avid reader and a lifelong learner. She and Bill loved studying literature and history and pursued continued education all of their lives. She shared her love of reading with her family and spent countless hours reading to her children and grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, William, on Aug. 14, 2015. She is survived by their children, Karen (Craig) Hertsgaard, Bill (Jane) Hilgedick and Christine (Pete) Boyer, and eight grandchildren.

A memorial service was held Oct. 12 at Waverly Gardens in North Oaks, with interment at Fort Snelling National Cemetery.

Dorothea Ofstedal

Dorothea Ann Jerdee Ofstedal, 81, of Falcon Heights, died peacefully Oct. 13 surrounded by loving family. Dorothea trusted that her savior lord was waiting to receive her into the arms of God.

A devoted daughter, sister, wife, mother and grandmother, she lived to serve, bringing family together often. She was an accomplished organist, pianist and choral singer. She loved family times at the cabin. She will be remembered for her lovely, gentle sense of humor.

Families in St. Anthony Park may remember "Mrs. O's" record of faithful substitute teaching at St. Anthony Park Elementary School.

Born in Bemidji, Minn., she was a pastor's daughter in Cass Lake, Minn.; Beloit, Iowa; Crocker, S.D.; and Iola, Wis. After her father's sudden death she lived with her mother in Decorah, Iowa; Monticello, Va.; and Forest City, Iowa. She attended Waldorf College

in Iowa and the University of Minnesota.

She married Paul E. Ofstedal in 1957. They served Lutheran parishes together in Park Falls, Wis.; Lakota, Sioux City, and Storm Lake, Iowa; Williston, N.D.; and at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church.

She was preceded in death by their daughter, Anne; parents, Dora Peterson Jerdee and Joseph Conrad Jerdee; and brother, Joseph. She is survived by Paul, her husband of 58 years; children, Daniel, Joseph, Ruth Jovaag-Ofstedal (Jon) and Anne's husband, Lu Wei; sister, Janet Forde; sister-in-law, Sylvia Jerdee; and 11 grandchildren.

Her memorial service was held at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, Oct. 17.

Jens Thomsen

Jens Theodore Thomsen, 27, of Roseville, died Oct. 31. He was a man whose smile lit up a room. Jens was curious and adventurous: studying Spanish in Toledo, Spain; swimming with and studying sharks in Bimini, Bahamas; jumping from airplanes; and traveling the world.

Jens graduated from the University of Minnesota in 2010. Most recently Jens worked in insurance sales and was the top salesperson on numerous occasions.

He is survived by daughter, Sienna Grace; fiancée, Sydney Dobbs; parents, Mark and Grace; sister, Sonja (Cain Oulahan, Orjan, Aiden); and grandmothers, Mary Lou Thomsen and Ruth Swanson.

Jens joins his grandfathers, Paul Swanson and Mark W. Thomsen, and uncle John Swanson, who preceded him.

A celebration of life service was held Nov. 6 at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church.

Letters from 4

SAPListserv). All Land Use Committee meetings are open to the public. The new location for the meetings is in the Jennings Community Learning Center, 2455 University Avenue W. There is parking behind the building with access to the building from the parking lot.

Residents may send ideas and comments about the Ecumen/Luther Seminary project in writing to the Community Council or by email to info@sapcc.org.

*Land Use Committee,
St. Anthony Park
Community Council*

Hats off to City Council for restricting flavored tobacco

I commend the St. Paul City Council for introducing an ordinance to protect youth by restricting flavored tobacco products to adult-only stores

and raising the minimum price of flavored cigars. As someone who has worked with cancer survivors since 2008, I see first-hand the devastating health consequences of tobacco addiction.

As a mother, the growing popularity of these products among youth is particularly concerning to me. According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), seven out of 10 students who use tobacco say they have used flavored tobacco. Since almost 90 percent of smokers started before they were 18, restricting the sale of flavored tobacco is a sure-fire way to prevent youth initiation.

Working with cancer survivors truly drives home the value of prevention. We need do everything we can to keep our young people free from nicotine addiction.

*Cathy Skinner
St. Anthony Park*

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Business News

Wellness center opens in 'big yellow house'

St. Anthony Park resident Marnie Sanborn Myhre has taken over Bright Heart yoga center's space in the "big yellow house" at 2235 Luther Place, next to the parking lot on the Luther Seminary campus. Myhre says she wants to expand her center, RiverStones Wellness, to include acupuncture, massage, energy healing, as well as yoga and qigong.

She envisions a community center that may include a knitting group and book group or artistic workshops, "anything that pulls people together," she said. "That in itself is healing."

The idea for a community center that offers wellness services as well as creative outlets is "something I've been thinking about for years," she said. "This is a start."



Marnie Sanborn Myhre and her dog, Razcal, on the porch at RiverStones Wellness. Photo by Kristal Leebrick

Myhre is a physical therapist with advanced certification in ergonomics, holistic health, energy healing, Reiki and yoga therapy. She has been practicing yoga for more than 14 years.

Bright Heart proprietor Melanie McRae will continue teaching a yoga

class in the building on Fridays. New morning and evening classes have been added and the first class is free. Check the schedule out at riverstoneswellness.com.—Kristal Leebrick

Eyedeals closes St. Anthony Park store

Eyedeals has moved out of its St. Anthony Park location and merged that operation with its longtime Minneapolis Uptown location, 3042 Hennepin Ave. Eyedeals has had a storefront at Lake Street and Hennepin since 1990.

The space at 2309 Como Ave. is available for lease. Interested parties can contact proprietor Dave Daly 612-819-3475 for more information.

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Good Acre opens on Larpenteur

The Good Acre opened its new facility at 1790 W. Larpenteur Ave., at the former Hermes Garden Center site, on Oct. 30. The day included tours of the facility, music and more. The Good Acre includes classroom space, a teaching kitchen and food storage. Spokeswoman Terry Egge says it will be used as a food hub for a multi-farm CSA (community-supported agriculture), where members can pick up a box of produce each week during the growing season; a place for classes taught through the University of Minnesota's Extension program; and more. Here, Rhys Williams, general manager of the Good Acre, helps cut the ribbon along with Sara Pohl, board chair; Lindsay Pohl; Allie Pohl; Jane Shey, board member of the Good Acre and policy associate for the Organic Farming Research Foundation; Jay Bell, Good Acre board member and professor in the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences at the U; Falcon Heights mayor Pete Lindstrom; and representatives from the Hmong American Farmers Association. As programs develop at the site, information will be posted on the Good Acre's website, www.thegoodacre.org, Egge said.—Kristal Leebrick

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Peter: 651-639-6368 petersparr@edinarealty.com
Lindsey: 651-639-6432 lindseysnaola@edinarealty.com

Edina Realty



Boy Scout Troop 17 in 1927: For 100 years, the troop has met nearly every week at St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ (formerly St. Anthony Park Congregational Church), 2129 Commonwealth Ave.

Scout troop celebrates centennial

Editor's note: This is the first of three articles highlighting the history of Troop 17 in St. Anthony Park. This first article describes the troop's beginnings through World War I and II.

By Mike Smith

The year 2016 will mark the centennial of Troop 17, Boy Scouts of America (BSA). Troop 17 is the second oldest continuously chartered troop in Minnesota. It meets at St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ (formerly St. Anthony Park Congregational Church), 2129 Commonwealth Ave., nearly every week and has done so for the last 100 years. It is the oldest troop in the state continuously chartered by one organization and meeting in the same building as when it began.

The troop was formed and began meeting at St. Anthony Park Congregational Church the first week of March 1916. The first Scoutmaster was James "Dad" Drew, a professor in the University Farm School. Drew's house was right across the street from the church, at 1307 Chelmsford St. The new church building on Commonwealth was completed in 1914, and the story goes that boys in the neighborhood came to Drew and asked him to start a new troop. With a new building for meetings right across the street, it seemed a perfect fit. They met with the deacons of the church to gain the church's approval.

The troop was temporarily registered as Troop 69, but within a few months the number was changed to 17.

Drew had been part of a previous start of Troop 17 in St. Anthony Park, also associated with St. Anthony Park Congregational Church, but at its earlier location in south St. Anthony Park. That troop was organized in December 1910 by

A.D. Wilhoit and had nearly 30 members. Drew and E.A. Norcross were assistant Scoutmasters. It appears the troop became inactive in 1911 or 1912. There were other startups about the same time. These included Twilight Troop 35 (formed in April 1911), whose member Roy Young was the first Eagle Scout in Minnesota and the third in the nation.

Drew was a merit badge counselor for area troops as early as 1910, the founding years of the Boy Scouts of America. He was an expert at knot-tying, archery and blacksmithing and was involved with both the Hennepin and Ramsey Boy Scout Councils as well as the local troop. It was Drew's hands that were illustrated tying knots in early BSA Scout Handbooks. Dad Drew held many honors and awards from Scouting, and in 2014, he was included in the Founders Hall at the North Star Museum of Scouting for his many contributions.

In 1919, many of the older Scouts wanted a troop for themselves (and Troop 17 needed room for new 12-year-olds) so they formed Troop 25, "The Wyandots."

The 1920s

In 1920, some of the Scouts who attended a different church left Troop 17 to form Troop 22, meeting at St. Anthony Park Methodist Church, one block away. By 1921, knot-tying had become a specialty of Troop 17, with the expert teaching of Dad Drew. In 1924, Drew stepped down as scoutmaster (he was 61 at the time) and was replaced by E.T. Field. In 1926, the Wyandot troop merged back with Troop 17, and Samuel Haupt, the first Eagle Scout of Troop 17, became Scoutmaster. In 1927 Troop 17 won

first place in the prestigious City Wide Scout Contest. Kenneth Boss, another former Troop 17 Scout, became Scoutmaster in 1928.

The 1930s

In 1930 "wall-scaling" became a popular activity for area Scouts. Troop 17 constructed a wall for its exclusive use and practice behind the church. The troop celebrated its 15th anniversary in 1931 with a "review." Scouts created their own regalia, and in 1932 participated in the Scout Show held at the Hippodrome on the Minnesota State Fairgrounds. Troop 17 became active in the St. Paul Scout Hockey League in 1936.

The 1940s

With the outbreak of World War II, Scouts frequently volunteered with paper and metal drives. The troop created a newsletter to keep in touch with former Troop 17 Scouts serving around the world. It was a real morale booster. Drew again served as Scoutmaster in 1944-45, at the age of 82. And 1949 found Elmer Andersen serving as Scoutmaster. Eleven years later, he became governor of Minnesota.

The list of Scouts, Eagle Scouts and leaders of Troop 17 during these years is a who's-who of community leaders in St. Anthony Park and St. Paul.

Centennial celebration

If you or someone you know is a former member of Troop 17, let us know so that you can be recognized and participate in the centennial celebration, which will be held Saturday, Feb. 27, 5-8 p.m. at St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ. Contact Mike Smith: by phone, 651-398-5552; by email, johnmichaelsmith@comcast.net; or by mail at Troop 17 Centennial, c/o St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ, 2129 Commonwealth Ave., St. Paul, MN 55108.

Former Scouts of St. Anthony Park Troops 22, 25, 48 and 80 are encouraged to participate.

Next month: more history of Troop 17 from 1950 to 1980.

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School News

The Bugle welcomes news about students and schools in the area. The deadline for the January 2016 issue is Wednesday, Dec. 2. Send your news to editor@park-bugle.org.

Avalon

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

Open house at Avalon

Avalon School, a grades 6-12 charter school located in south St. Anthony Park by Raymond Station on the Green Line, is having an open house on Tuesday, Dec. 8, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Families are invited to take tours, ask questions and learn about what a day at Avalon looks like. Avalon's focus is helping students learn through independent projects designed by students.

Questions? Contact Kevin Ward at 651-649-5495, ext. 211, or kevin@avalonschool.org.

Chelsea Heights Elementary

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

Food drive at Chelsea

Join Chelsea Heights Elementary School in the fight against hunger. Bring nonperishable, unopened, unexpired food items to Chelsea Heights through Friday, Dec. 4. The items will be donated to Neighborhood House Food Shelf, which assists disadvantaged families in St. Paul.

Como Park Senior High

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

Career Fair at Como

The Academy of Finance (AOF) held its second annual Career Fair at the school Oct. 20. More than 50 professionals spent the morning speaking with the 218 AOF students, as well as many ELL students, in small group settings. Many students were introduced to careers in finance, business and technology.

French students visit the U

French College in the Schools (CIS) students spent a day in October at the University of Minnesota Field Day with 350 fellow French students from around the Twin Cities. The students interviewed professionals who use French in their careers, Francophone U of M staff members and professors, and U of M students. They also participated in a "French Fun Facts" scavenger hunt across the campus.

"A great, enriching experience was had by all," Madame Patricia Teefy said.

National Merit finalist is now a QuestBridge finalist

Senior Keith Eicher has added another prestigious award to accompany his National Merit

Scholarship Finalist status. He's a finalist for the National QuestBridge Scholarship, a scholarship for high-achieving, low-income students that provides students with full tuition, room and board, and books.

Students perform fall musical

The fall musical "A Midsummer Night's Dream" was performed Nov. 5 and 6 in the Como auditorium. The cast and choir also performed a dress rehearsal during the day of Nov. 4 for Murray eighth-graders, who took a field trip to Como to see the production.

Leading roles were played by seniors Margaret Coyne, Raphael Forrest and Emanuel Rivera, juniors Nicolas Otte, Justine Sanchez and Anna Ansalado, and sophomores Alyssa Clark and Norah Vitali.

Students bag groceries to raise funds for Washington, D.C., trip

The annual Close Up trip to Washington D.C. is slated for the first week of March, but fundraising is already in full swing. Students from AP Government classes will bag groceries for customers at the Roseville Cub Foods on Larpenteur just before Thanksgiving on Tuesday, Nov. 24, from 4 to 8 p.m. Cub customers support the effort of the students with donations that help defray the expense of the educational adventure.

Three full days of grocery bagging for the Close Up students will be scheduled during winter break in December. We'll provide those dates in the next issue of the Bugle.

Ultimate team visits Winnipeg

Como's Ultimate Frisbee Team traveled to Winnipeg during MEA weekend to participate in the annual "Hold Back the Snow" tournament. This unique tournament is co-ed, with boys and girls competing together on the field at the same time.

The Como players stayed with host families in Winnipeg, building international relationships with peers from the St. John's Ravenscourt School. Como's longtime Ultimate Frisbee advisor and coach, Ross Savage, described the tournament as "spirited, fun and sportsmanlike."

Minnehaha Academy

3100 W. River Parkway, Minneapolis 612-728-7776
MinnehahaAcademy.net

Students send their work to space

Falcon Heights resident Colby Boehm and fellow students in Minnehaha Academy's Applied Research and Engineering class are beginning work on two experiments destined for the International Space Station. This will be the fourth year that Minnehaha Academy students have sent an experiment into space and the first year that students will have the opportunity to send two



Colby Boehm

experiments to the Space Station.

Students work with experts in the field to develop their experiments and to prepare for launch day. These mentors work with the students weekly, providing support and guidance as the teams work through the entire process, from developing concepts, to designing and creating experiments, to ensuring their work will meet the guidelines for materials' launch on a NASA rocket.

Team One's experiment will study vibration cancellation in micro-gravity.

Team Two is designing an experiment that will study the effects of light on the direction of plant growth in a micro-gravity environment.

You can follow along as the two teams progress through their experiments on their blog, minnehahaiss.wordpress.com.

Working models of the experiments are due on Dec. 7, and they will be launched at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in spring 2016.

Murray Middle

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

Students lead at Murray

Student leaders at Murray are stepping up in ways big and small that make a real difference in our community. Here are a few examples:

Where Everybody Belongs (WEB)—Our WEB leaders have supported the fifth-to-sixth-grade middle-school transition process from last spring and all fall through various activities. From visiting the elementary school, hosting sixth-grade orientation activities, designing and leading activities for foundations, and taking leadership on our anti-bullying campaign.

Dare 2 Be Real—This is a group of leaders whose mission is to take a lead in equity within our school

community. They recently performed at an assembly and taught the school community about the impact of stereotypes.

National Junior Honor Society—This group is taking the lead on service to the school and has spent countless hours supporting school events, parent and student orientation, and the open house and iPad roll out. They are the first to step up when support is needed.

Genius Squad—This group of learners is also helping with the iPad roll out and support.

Wolf Ridge—Our Wolf Ridge leaders plan the five-day environmental and cultural retreat in November. Their role is to lead culture classes and support peers in this hands-on environmental learning experience.

St. Anthony Park Elementary

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

Thank you!

The St. Anthony Park School Association extends a hearty thank you to all those in the community who helped support the annual Fall Festival fundraiser. It's one of the biggest fundraisers of the year, and it could not be successful without help from the community. Money raised during the fun night of games, food and activities will go to fund student enrichment opportunities.

Thank you to Music in the Park and the Schubert Club for bringing musicians from Music in the Park concert series to St. Anthony Park Elementary School. Through these experiences, students can envision themselves as musicians as they develop a personal relationship with exceptional music. This fall students had the pleasure of listening to Borromeo String Quartet and WindSync.

Bike racks have arrived

Thank you to the St. Paul Public Schools facilities department for the installation of the new bike racks, and to the Safe Routes to School grant and Girl Scout Troop 53169

for the purchase. The permanent placement of bike racks encourages students to take an active role in their well-being by riding their bikes to school.

BOKS returns to SAP

A before-school physical activity program, Build Our Kids Success, prepares students for a day of learning and is an important step in helping them gain an appreciation of the benefits of exercise and healthy choices that will last a lifetime. Thanks to Jenny Martineau for her vision, Chris Martineau and Ray Noble for their leadership, and to the St. Anthony Park Wellness Committee.

Twin Cities German Immersion

1031 Como Ave. 651-492-7106
www.tcgis.org

German Immersion School hosts German students through GAPP

"Gigantic grocery stores," "big trucks," "friendly, open, funny people" and "lots of squirrels." This is how 25 exchange students from Borghorst, Germany, described their Minnesota experience. They came to Twin Cities German Immersion School (TCGIS) as part of the German American Partnership Program (GAPP), a nonprofit exchange program that promotes intercultural understanding between schools in Germany and the U.S. German students stay with host families here and vice versa for two weeks each.

From the Mall of America to Sears Tower, the Germans participated in many culturally "American" things. Eighth-grade teacher Michael Mullins and Philipp Kovermann from Borghorst Realschule facilitated the program at their respective schools. They both say the program is an excellent way to practice language skills as well as foster intercultural understanding and lifelong friendships.

American GAPP students will travel to Germany and stay at their partner's home in spring 2016.

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CPHS Cougar Sports



Murray Pilots Sports

by Eric Erickson

Eric Erickson highlights Como Park Senior High School athletics each month in the Bugle.

A roundup of fall sports at Como Park Senior and Murray

Como Park Cougars

Boys soccer—For the fourth consecutive season, the boys soccer team qualified for the State Tournament. The 2015 team had a unique journey to get there (see story below). The regular season was a bumpy ride for the Cougars. While there were periods of quality soccer from the new combination of teammates, consistency and cohesion were challenges, evidenced by an 0-2-4 record to start the season.

Through the steady leadership of second-year head coach Jonah Fields and veteran captains Israel

Castillo Guzman, Ryan Yang and Tyler Johnson, the team persevered and discovered their winning formula for the Section 4A Tournament, advancing to State and finishing with an overall record of 9-7-5.

Football—As previously reported in the Bugle, the Como Cougars Football team started the season facing the challenges of lower numbers, inexperience and some tough early losses. The resilient Cougars kept working and won three of their last six games, including a

convincing 47-22 first-round section play-off win over Brooklyn Center.

The team's improvement throughout the season was undeniable. With football's new competitive format, All-District honors were earned by seniors Trey Clay and Demetrice Mitchell, junior Donnie Ventrelli and sophomore Corey Guenther. Honorable Mention players included seniors Erik Hoonsbean and Zuriel Cushing, junior Charlie Kray and sophomore Robert Adams.

Cross Country—The boys and girls

cross country teams bonded with disciplined training and traditional team dinners. The girls team featured All-Conference Honorable Mention runners Eva Hanson, Ana Caballero and Bridget Proper. Senior captain Mary Miles earned All-Conference, placing second overall in the City Conference meet. Junior Florence Uwajenza finished in first place to become the St. Paul City Champion. Her brother, Innocent Murwanashyaka, finished in first place on the boys side (see story below).

Senior captain Tuomas Sivula

supplied support to all runners, along with fellow senior Geleto Roba who earned All-Conference. Freshman Isaac Harker earned All-Conference Honorable Mention.

Volleyball—The Volleyball team featured a special senior class of five players that Coach Kim Smisek said "has not only been important to our success this year, they have molded our program over the past four years."

The success this season was an

Sports to 24

Champs times

3!

Como Park Senior High School's fall sports season ended with the winning of city and section championships in three sports.

The volleyball team won the St. Paul City Championship for the second time in three years. They clinched the title in the Como gym against Central in the last match of the regular season, to finish 11-1 in conference (20-8 overall).

Coach Kim Smisek and her players were confident they could do it, but a packed gym of Como fans, and maybe even the team itself, was impressed by how they did it. Saving balls all over the court and converting kills with precision and power produced happy faces that beamed for the post-match photos. The Lady Cougars created a memory they will always cherish.

Cross Country involves individual competition within the team sport. Conference champions are crowned for both teams and individuals. Both the Como boys and girls teams finished third in the conference. The individual champions for each team were Como's brother-and-sister dynamic duo of Innocent Murwanashyaka and Florence Uwajenza.

This thrilling feat was celebrated and shared by teachers, friends and teammates who gathered on the Como Golf Course to cheer them on and capture the historical event of siblings winning the city meet.

Innocent's excellence carried over into the Section 4AA meet, where suburban and private schools of the northeast metro competed for slots in the state meet against city teams. With a third-place finish (out of 80) in the section, Innocent qualified for state, showing a larger audience that the city champ was the real deal.

Then there's that Como soccer

team. The St. Paul City is a gauntlet of fierce competition in boys soccer. Playing in it has always prepared the Cougars for section tournaments. The Cougars won the conference in 2012 and 2013 before heading to state, but it's not a prerequisite.

The 2014 team went to State after a second-place finish in the conference. This year's team finished third, and was the No. 4 seed for the Section 4A Tournament. Casual fans did not expect much from Como. Section competitors in the know feared losing to their Como opponents. Their fears were realized.

After a come-from-behind quarterfinal win against city rival Washington, the Cougars traveled to play the No. 1 seed Mahtomedi in the semifinals. Como dominated the top seed, winning 1-0, and advanced to the section Championship vs. the No. 3 seed Mounds Park Academy.

With the opportunity to go back to state right in front of them, the Cougars seized the day and enjoyed everything about their convincing 3-0 victory. The resiliency of the team was remarkable. They never, ever quit. They improved and found their form with each game. And they created another fond memory for the school and Como community could celebrate with pride.

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.



Como athletics thrived this fall with multiple championships: The volleyball team (above) won the City Conference. Florence Uwajenza and her brother, Innocent Murwanashyaka, (at left) each won the City Conference meet in cross-country. Innocent also ran well in the Section meet to qualify for State. Boys soccer team (below) won the Section 4A championship, and returned to State for the fourth consecutive year.



Classifieds

Send your ad to classifieds@parkbugle.org or P.O.Box 8126, St. Paul, MN 55108, or call Fariba Sanikhatam, 651-239-0321. Ads are \$5 per line. Add a box or art for \$10. **Next deadline: Dec. 4.**



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Sports from 22

11-1 conference record and the St. Paul City Championship (see story on page 22). The conference title is the second for this group. They helped form the core of the 2013 conference championship season when they were sophomores.

Bekah Hausman, Olivia Berven, Emily LaCroix-Dalluhn, Delilah Wolf and Sinead O'Duffy have now concluded their Como volleyball careers, but the returning players and rising junior varsity talent will work to keep the program strong.

Girls soccer—As previously reported in the Bugle, the Lady Cougars had a young but deep squad that helped the team combat injuries and still succeed. The final overall record of 8-6-3 was achieved with three freshmen in the starting lineup and several defensive combinations that proved to be adaptable.

Senior Brianna Menssen was the team's leading scorer, registering 15 goals, which earned her All-Conference recognition. All-Conference Honorable Mention players included senior forward Angie Martin, junior defender Dah Dah and freshman midfielder Anna Erickson.

Girls tennis—Led by captains Emma Hartmann, Mira Kammuller and Lizzy Larson, the team improved their record from the previous year to finish with a 3-3 record against St. Paul City opponents. The Cougars featured a versatile line-up with players alternating between singles and doubles play depending on the need. Senior Tamera Hines played at the top of the doubles ladder successfully with several teammates.

The girls worked hard for a new coach and also spent time together off the court enjoying team dinners.

Girls swimming—Eleven dedicated Como swimmers produced a fourth-place finish in the conference. Individual highlights included strong performances in the conference meet from senior Katie Young in the 50- and 100-yard freestyle.

Junior Georgianne Kinsman achieved personal bests in the 200- and 500-yard freestyle. Senior Lia Chin-Purcell achieved a second-place finish in the 50-yard free and third in the 100-yard free.

For the second consecutive year, a Como swimmer won the Roger Bosveld Spirit Award. Chin-Purcell earned the prestigious honor, given to the most outstanding swimmer in the conference, based on success in



Murray class proposes pollinator garden

Murray Middle School's e2.4 science class presented a pollinator garden proposal to Murray administration, St. Paul Public Schools facilities management, local concerned citizens and representatives from the University of Minnesota's Monarch Lab on Nov. 4. The students have proposed installing the garden in front of the school near the flag pole. The students are shown here in the area where they plan to plant, along with their teacher, Tim Chase, and guests at their presentation: assistant principal Jamin McKenzie; principal Stacey Theien-Collins; Tony Schmit, a graduate student at the U who mentors at Murray; Mary Maguire Lerman, a horticulturalist whose specialty is invasive species; Jon Schumacher, executive director of the St. Anthony Park Community Council; Todd Larson, from the district's facilities department; Lisa Sackreiter, a Murray parent who helped install a vegetable garden at the school; Michael Russelle, a retired soil scientist and neighbor; and Sarah Weaver of the Monarch Lab. *Photo by Kristal Leebrick*

swimming, academics and community service.

Murray Pilots

Volleyball—The Pilots were the undefeated champions of the St. Paul City, winning all of their matches in the regular season and sweeping through the end of the season conference tournament. The team was dominant, finishing with an 11-0 record and winning every tournament match in two straight games. The peak moment came in the intense championship match against Capitol Hill. The Pilots

pulled out back-to-back 25-22 wins to complete their perfect season.

Girls soccer—Thirty-five middle school girls worked hard and had fun developing their skills, noticeably improving through a successful season that ended with the Pilots posting an overall record of 8-1-1. After losing the first game of the season against Highland, the girls never lost again, playing great defense to record six shutouts.

Eighth-grade captains Kiersten Howatt, Sadie Murphy and Olivia Ahrens were consistently positive and encouraging, which carried over to the rest of the team. The team was well balanced with many goal scorers and all players willing to try multiple positions to help the team.

Boys soccer—The Pilots were one of the 11 St. Paul middle school teams that showcased great skill and quality, helping to explain why the St. Paul

City Conference is such a competitive high school soccer conference with deep pools of talent. The Murray boys battled to an overall record of 4 wins and 6 losses in the city and were led by eighth-graders that set foundations of leadership to build on for next year's returning players. Standout players included Abdul Aziz, Saw Ray and Charles Rogers.

Flag football—Several key returning players from last year's team brought the Murray Pilots Flag Football team to a second-place finish in the St. Paul City Conference. With a record of 9 wins and 2 losses, including an eight-game winning streak, the season was very successful. The team had a high-powered offense led by Jalen James, Drewjuan White, Nicholas Jacobson, Ephraim Mau and team MVP Amari Carter, who had "the greatest one-hand catch" Coach Pearson said he's ever seen.

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