



Field of dreams

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Business news

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St. Anthony Park Arts Festival

Artist profiles, map and schedule begin on page 11

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June 2016

New Bell will be gateway to St. Paul campus

By Roger Bergerson

It was a quest that continued through three governors, three University of Minnesota presidents and three deans of the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences.

So when ground finally was broken for a new Bell Museum of Natural Science and Planetarium recently, it was a time for celebration, but also reflection on a long journey and repeated setbacks along the way.

The state Legislature, for example, twice passed bills funding a new museum, only to have them

vetoed by then-Gov. Tim Pawlenty. Then the project was included in the 2013 legislative bonding bill that failed to pass. After that, the university's central administration stopped lobbying for the facility.

But advocates didn't give up and a last-gasp effort finally succeeded in 2014.

That, university Regent Tom Devine told an Earth Day gathering at the St. Paul campus student center, took "one heck of a collaboration and the leader of the band was Alice Hausman," the St. Paul DFLer who is the state representative for the area.

Afterward, Lee Pfannmuller,

chair of the Bell advisory board, expanded on Hausman's role, calling her "the key."

"It was her persistence over the years, particularly during the 2014 legislative session, that kept the need for funding front and center," Pfannmuller said. "Had she not done that we wouldn't be where we are. Having a champion at the Legislature was absolutely essential and Alice is the best one could ask for!"

However, Phannmuller hastened to add that the project still would have been dead in the water if university President Eric Kaler hadn't

been willing to work out a deal: The university would issue bonds for the project if the Legislature paid for the debt service with general fund dollars.

The new \$80 million Bell, projected to become the gateway to the university's St. Paul campus, is slated to open in late summer 2018 on a five-acre site on the southwest corner of Larpenteur and Cleveland avenues in Falcon Heights.

It will have more exhibit space than the current museum on the Minneapolis campus, as well as a

Bell Museum to 6



A rendering of the southwest view of the building.

Fourth in the Park adds new events this year

The organizers of St. Anthony Park's annual Independence Day celebration, the Fourth in the Park, are cooking up a few new activities for this year.

"This will be the 69th anniversary and we're looking forward to growing the event by adding several new exciting elements to the day," said Emma Seeley, one of the event's organizers.

Those new elements include more bands in the parade, free T-shirts to be given away on the parade route, new classic cars rolling down Como Avenue, and at Langford Park after the parade, a photo booth, face painting, a bouncy castle and obstacle course, an improved sound system and a D.J. Organizers are also planning an Instagram scavenger hunt—stay tuned for the details on that.

If you want to get involved in this year's event, the Fourth in the Park is holding a volunteer get-together on Tuesday, June 7, 6:30-7:30 p.m., at Langford Recreation Center. "We will be grilling out and providing treats and beverages for new and existing volunteers," Seeley said. "Come sign up for a wide variety of volunteer tasks and get your free volunteer T-shirt." — Kristal Leebrick

Tell us about your favorite close-to-home summer vacation

Do you have a favorite place you like to visit in the summer that is within a day's drive of the Twin Cities?

We'd like Bugle readers to share their advice on where to go that's close to home. We want to hear about day trips, long weekends or a must-see area that's no more than an 8- or 10-hour drive from the Twin Cities.

Tell us your stories: What makes that place special? How do you get there? Do you camp, stay in a cabin or hotel, or head back home at the end of the day?

Send a paragraph or two (or three!) by Wednesday, June 8, to editor@parkbugle.org or Editor, Park Bugle, P.O. Box 8126, St. Paul, MN 55108. We'll publish our readers' vacation advice in our July issue, which hits the streets on June 21.



## C I T Y F I L E S

**Como Park**

*The District 10 Como Community Council meets at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month at the Historic Streetcar Station, 1224 N. Lexington Parkway. Contact 651-644-3889 or [www.district10comopark.org](http://www.district10comopark.org).*

**Workshops for landlords or tenants will be offered in June**

District 10 is partnering with HOME Line to offer tenant and landlord workshops in June. The workshops are free, but registration is required. Sign up at [district10comopark.org/rental\\_workshops.html](http://district10comopark.org/rental_workshops.html).

The tenant workshop, scheduled for Thursday, June 2, 5-6:30 p.m., will focus on the three biggest sources of renter complaints: repairs, evictions and security deposits.

The landlord workshop is designed for property owners and managers, whether you rent out a single-family home or multiple units. Topics will include the application process, discrimination and fair-housing issues, repairs, bedbugs, evictions and requirements about when a landlord can or cannot enter

the living space. The landlord workshop will be held Tuesday, June 7, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Both workshops will be held at the Como Park Streetcar Station, at the northeast corner of Lexington Parkway and Horton Avenue.

**2016 ComoFest will host events every weekend in July**

There will be more to ComoFest in 2016, with family fun and events every weekend in July. District 10's annual Ice Cream Social—on Friday July 15—is one of the events. For a peek at this year's calendar, a link to sign up for the 5K Run and Walk, and a link to register to exhibit at the Art Fair, go to [www.comofest.com](http://www.comofest.com).

**Building better block clubs**

The District 10 Como Community Council is partnering with the Como Park Falcon Heights Living at Home Block Nurse Program to revitalize block clubs in the neighborhood. To do that, your opinions are needed. Please take a survey at [surveymonkey.com/r/blockclubs](http://surveymonkey.com/r/blockclubs).

**Sunday is recycling-bin day**

The Como Park Streetcar Station is

open noon-4 p.m. every Sunday between now and the end of September. A District 10 board member will be on hand to distribute recycling bins, organics composting bags or just take your comments and suggestions. The Streetcar Station is at the northeast corner of Lexington Parkway and Horton Avenue.

**Get D10 weekly news**

To keep up to date on what's going on down the block, across the street and around the corner, sign up for District 10's free weekly e-newsletter. It will be sent to your inbox every Friday.

Go to [district10comopark.org](http://district10comopark.org), then click the sign-up icon in the right column.

**Lauderdale and Falcon Heights**

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

*The Falcon Heights City Council meets the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 7 p.m. in Falcon Heights City Hall, 2077 W. Larpeur Ave. Contact 651-792-7600 or [www.falconheights.org](http://www.falconheights.org).*

**Farmers market starts in June**

Lauderdale's Farmers Market will be held the third Thursday of June-October.

It will kick off on Thursday, June 16, 4-7 p.m. Other dates are July 21, Aug. 18, Sept. 15 and Oct. 20. Do you have garden surplus you would like to sell? There is no charge to be a vendor.

Contact Susie at [LauderdaleFarmersMarket@gmail.com](mailto:LauderdaleFarmersMarket@gmail.com) or 651-329-8401 for an application. The market is looking for musicians to play for an hour or so at each market.

**Bike drive is June 11**

The Falcon Heights-Lauderdale Lions Club is putting on a bike drive on Saturday, June 11, at the Falcon Heights City Hall parking lot, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

If you have an unused bicycle gathering dust and taking up space in your garage or storage area,



Daffodils bloomed in April in the new median on Raymond Avenue.

donate it to Cycles for Change, where it will be refurbished and given to someone who will use it.

Cycles for Change ([cyclesforchange.org](http://cyclesforchange.org)) is a nonprofit community bike shop located in the Frogtown area of St. Paul. Even bikes beyond repair will be stripped of usable parts and recycled in a responsible manner.

**St. Anthony Park**

*The District 12 Community Council meets on the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at Jennings Community Learning Center, 2455 University Ave. To find when council committees meet, go to [www.sapcc.org](http://www.sapcc.org) or call 651-649-5992. The council offices are now located at 2395 University Ave., Suite 300 E.*

**The beauty of traffic calming**

Just in case you missed it, the Raymond Avenue median just south of Energy Park Drive was filled with blooming daffodils in late April (see photo above). The St. Anthony Park Community Council's Transportation Committee instigated the three-phase traffic-calming project that began two years ago along Raymond Avenue. The median is one of the structures being put into place to help calm traffic along this busy thoroughfare.

Last year, the community

council won a grant from the University of Minnesota's Good Neighbor Fund to help with the planting of the median. The daffodils were the first flowers to come up this year. Next up: a number of native and pollinator species.


**Creative Enterprise Zone**

*The Creative Enterprise Zone (CEZ) represents the area bounded by I-94, Prior Avenue, the railroad tracks by Energy Park Drive and the Minneapolis border. You can find out more about the CEZ at [creativeenterprisezone.org](http://creativeenterprisezone.org).*

**Celebrate the CEZ this summer**

During the first four months of 2016, the Creative Enterprise Zone (CEZ) "We Make It Here" project in St. Paul has celebrated and promoted creative businesses throughout the CEZ. The CEZ will celebrate the the Smallest Museum in St. Paul's first anniversary at a CEZ #WeMakeItHere Happy Hour Thursday, June 30, 6-8 p.m. at WORKHORSE Coffee Bar, 2399 W. University Ave.

The happy hour is part of the CEZ Action Committee's efforts to shine a light and support the creative work that happens in the area. The mixers are open to the public.




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**Park Perks raised \$583**  
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During the month of June we  
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**Millions and billions of pies**

OK, maybe not that many, but organizers promise there will be plenty to choose from at the annual Northern Lights 4-H Club pie and ice cream social Friday, June 3, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., on Luther Seminary's lawn at the corner of Como Avenue and Luther Place. The annual club fundraiser will feature a variety of pies and ice cream, and the St. Anthony Park Community Band will be there to serenade the crowd.

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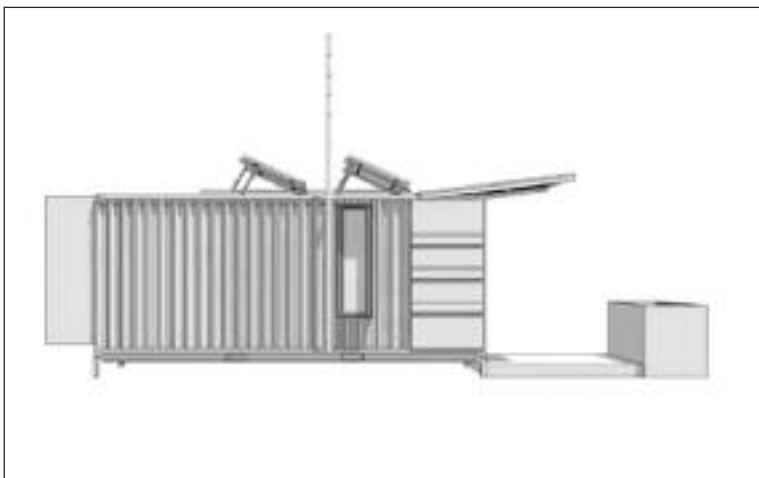
# Outings

Check out Alchemy Architects' lightHouse at Northern Spark in June.

Through the months of March, April and May, Geoffrey Warner and the folks at Alchemy Architects, 856 Raymond Ave., St. Anthony Park, burrowed into a warehouse at the University of Minnesota's Reuse Center to build a one-room roving hotel that they had hoped to rent out at festivals in the Twin Cities this summer.

The "for rent" part of the project has been put on hold, but you can see Alchemy's lightHouse at the Stone Arch Bridge in Minneapolis during the dawn-to-dusk arts festival, Northern Spark, in June. Northern Spark is a free event that features temporary installations and performances by local and national artists set up in various parts of Minneapolis—all between the hours of 9 p.m. Saturday, June 11, and 5:26 a.m., Saturday, June 12.

The lightHouse fits right into the festival's 2016 theme, Climate Chaos, Climate Rising. Alchemy, along with architecture students from the U's College of Design, built the dwelling out of an 8-by-20-foot shipping container and included sustainable amenities such as a composting toilet, solar panels and a porch at the entrance with a sitting area that will be surrounded by



A drawing of the lighthouse, courtesy Alchemy Architects.

water-filtering plants.

It was built for Minnesota's climate and has triple-glazed windows and doors and hydronic in-floor heat. The water system is self-contained, with a 250-gallon water tank, an on-demand water heater and a bio-filter for greywater (wastewater that can be reused). It's "a postcard for sustainability in the Twin Cities," Warner said.

The self-contained water system and the mobility of the lightHouse bumped up against city permitting regulations. Both St. Paul and Minneapolis require that any place you sleep in has to have a foundation

and connect to city sewer and water.

The project may open discussions on changing urban needs, so stay tuned, Warner said. For now, you can get a look at the lightHouse at the all-night festival in June. You can learn more about Northern Spark at [2016.northernspark.org](http://2016.northernspark.org). —Kristal Leebrick

*Editor's note: Is there something going on in the Twin Cities that you'd like to share with Bugle readers? Send a note with the subject line "Outings" to [editor@park-bugle.org](mailto:editor@park-bugle.org).*



Bryan Carpenter of Alchemy Architects works on the doorframe of the lightHouse at the U of M's Reuse Center. Photo by Kristal Leebrick

## After 30 years, Lauderdale and Falcon Heights police chief retires

By Bill Lindeke

Technically, the City of Lauderdale doesn't have its own police department. Most of the time, that doesn't much matter because the small suburb is the kind of place that largely polices itself. Everybody seems to recognize everybody, and if you're not from around there, someone will ask you if you're lost.

But every so often, the police must be called. And residents there are about to lose their longtime chief, John Ohl, who has been patrolling the streets of neighboring St. Anthony for more than three decades. For most of that time, both Lauderdale and Falcon Heights have been under the umbrella of the St. Anthony Police Department. The arrangement must be working because both towns have some of the highest criminal clearance rates around.

"Our clearance rate for Falcon Heights is 54 percent," Ohl said. "You think a bad guy thinks that's a good chance to take? It has been as high as 65 percent in Lauderdale. That's an impossible statistic. I credit that to knowing the community."

As he rose through the department ranks, Ohl grew familiar with the technical terminology popular in today's law enforcement discussions. For example, one popular phrase is "community-oriented policing," which focuses on building relationships with the community, crime prevention and



Chief John Ohl

problem solving.

"Community is the reason why we're a good fit for Lauderdale and Falcon Heights," Ohl said. "It's why our 20-plus-year relationship has been so successful. Police

departments have to match the culture of the community they're working for, and our culture is service oriented: Get to know people. Stop by the kids that are playing basketball. Make sure we're present at city events. Relationships are how we get our job done."

When he started school, Ohl had initially wanted to be a conservation officer for the Department of Natural Resources, enforcing the state's rules governing wildlife. But when those jobs proved to be few and far between, Ohl became interested in policing. After a few years doing odd security jobs, Ohl got his first job at the St. Anthony Police Department.

"I was just a dumb, wet-behind-the-ears kid," Ohl said. "I ended up

Police chief to 19

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**Next deadline:**  
**June 8. The paper  
will be published June 21.**

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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The Park Bugle is published by Park Press, Inc., a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization guided by an elected board of directors.

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## C O M M E N T A R Y

*Welcome to the Bugle editorial pages, 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 individual writers, not the Bugle staff or board of directors. We encourage community participation on this page, but we do retain the right to edit letters and commentaries for clarity and brevity. Letters should be kept to 400 words or fewer and commentaries should be 800 words or fewer. Send your commentaries or letters to editor@parkbugle.org*

# Illegal dumping at Kasota Ponds is byproduct of unorganized trash collection in St. Paul

*By Steve Yetter*

The Kasota Ponds Wildlife Area is situated west of Minnesota Highway 280 on the St. Paul–Minneapolis border and extends from the southern end of Hunting Valley Road to the BNSF rail yards. These wetlands are part of the Bridal Veil Creek sub-watershed and provide habitat for a surprising amount of wildlife, including migratory waterfowl, turtles, wild turkeys, deer and woodchucks.

The Environment Committee of the St. Anthony Park Community Council has sponsored cleanups of this area each spring since 1990. In recent years, illegal garbage dumping in this area has become a larger nuisance. At this year’s April 16 cleanup, volunteers pulled more than 30 car tires, six metal box springs, five water softeners and more than 40 bags of miscellaneous garbage from the north Kasota Pond. In a cleanup several years ago, Terry and Otto Gockman pulled a safe from one of the ponds that turned out to be from a burglary.

Metro Metals, a business near

the north pond, draws a consistent stream of metal scrappers hauling loads they hope to sell for cash. Scrappers often use the Hunting Valley Road turnaround near the entrance to Metro Metals and overlooking the north Kasota Pond, to sort through their loads. It appears that some items not accepted for purchase by Metro Metals are dumped into the north Kasota Pond.

At this year’s cleanup, I confronted a couple of guys sitting in a truck beside a hill strewn with garbage leading down to the north pond while they waited for Metro Metals to open. They were pretty sheepish when I asked them if they knew anything about nearby garbage, but denied having illegally dumped garbage into the ponds or having seen others do so.

After a while they started poking around the pile of garbage pulled from the pond and asked if they could take the metal box-spring mattresses and try to sell them. First I said, no. Then I said, yes, but only if they helped with the cleanup by

each filling a bag of garbage. Which they did. When they removed the box springs off the pile, I asked that if Metro Metals rejected them that they put them back on the pile and not throw them in the pond.

Twenty minutes later they were back on the pile.

Though the City of St. Paul spends more than \$250,000 per year cleaning up illegal dumping, this figure does not take into account all of the volunteer labor involved in cleanups like the annual Kasota Ponds event. If volunteers didn’t pull the trash from the ponds and put it into tidy piles for the city to collect, it may never be cleaned up under the current system. Despite signs warning dumpers of a \$700 fine, dumping continues in the Kasota Ponds. In 2014, other cleanup volunteers and I captured cellphone video of illegal dumpers in action just after we had cleaned up the area. We called the police, but when an officer finally arrived, the dumpers were gone and we were told that the video was not sufficient for a prosecution. The officer told us that illegal

dumping in St. Paul was a byproduct of the lack of organized trash collection and that Minneapolis does not have this problem because the City of Minneapolis provides garbage collection to its residents . The Macalester-Groveland community came to a similar conclusion in partnership with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency in their recent report on trash collection, “Taking Out the Trash.”

My own experience as a St. Paul resident bears out the observation that a lack of organized trash collection leads to illegal dumping. I have had two roll-off dumpsters for home-remodeling projects over the past few years. Soon after the dumpster arrives, it begins to attract a lot of nonconstruction garbage that mysteriously appears when I am not looking. For some, Kasota Ponds has become a “free” dumpster, but it is our neighborhood and the resident wildlife that pay the price.

*Steve Yetter is a resident of St. Anthony Park and a longtime volunteer at the annual Kasota Ponds cleanup.*

## L E T T E R S

The need for additional resources such as Reading Corps is very real and immediate. Statewide, one in three Minnesota kids is not on track to be proficient in reading at third grade, a critical educational benchmark. Reading Corps gives kids the tools they need.

As the tutoring coordinator at St. Anthony Park Elementary School, I can tell you that when kids reach reading proficiency standards by the end of third grade, they are much more likely to succeed later in school. In fact, they are four times more likely to graduate from high school. And high school graduation is a key indicator of increased earning potential, better health and a higher quality of life.

Unfortunately, many children in our community are less likely to achieve academic success and graduate from high school than other Minnesota children due to socio-

economic and language barriers. The disparity in educational achievement for low-income children and children of color is a serious challenge that has implications for all Minnesotans.

It’s time to respond to this challenge in a way that works. Minnesota Reading Corps has a proven 12-year track record of helping teachers bring PreK-grade 3 students up to grade level in reading and putting them on a path toward academic success. Reading Corps works regardless of where a child lives or socio-economic background. In fact, kids with higher risk factors make stronger gains.

Increasing state funding for Reading Corps is a wise investment in our state’s future.

*Becky Kallhoff,  
tutoring coordinator,  
St. Anthony Park Elementary*

**Correction**

We want to correct information relayed in our letter to the editor (Park Bugle, May 2016) regarding the St. Anthony Park Library land. At the time the letter was written, we were still researching at the Ramsey County Property Research Library.

Our letter should have read: The first two lots for the library (Lots 23-24) were purchased by the Improvement Association of St. Anthony Park. Lots 21-22 were donated by Edward and Grace Freeman who resided at 2196 Carter Ave. Dr. Edward Freeman was a botany and later plant pathology professor. Freeman later served as the dean of the College of Agriculture, University of Minnesota.

*Mary Maguire Lerman,  
Bill Lerman and Cindy  
Anderson, St. Anthony Park*

# The Bugle seeks board candidates

The Park Bugle is seeking candidates to fill openings on its board of directors. The board consists of residents and business owners from the communities served by the newspaper.

Skills and background desired include organizational or management skills, especially with nonprofits, including board service; fundraising and grant-writing experience; a strong connection to the community and the ability to comfortably approach potential donors; advertising experience, specifically sales, to support our sales representatives; and legal expertise.

If you want to help shape the strategic direction of your local, award-winning, nonprofit newspaper, send a short note and biography to editor@parkbugle.org, with DIRECTORS in the subject line. Or send a letter to Park Bugle, P.O. Box 8126, St. Paul, MN 55108, Attn: Directors.



## C O M M E N T A R Y

## Nothing but the truth

*By Adam Granger*

*Diogenes goes looking for an honest lawyer. A week into his search, he runs into a friend, who asks him how the quest is going. “Not bad,” replies Diogenes, “I still have my lantern.”*

This chestnut earned me \$100 when I sold it to Playboy magazine 40 years ago. It’s a somewhat oblique way to launch into a piece about truth and lying, but I like the joke. (And would that tale-telling were limited to attorneys, but it’s not, so I promise this is the only time I’ll mention them in this piece.)

Lying is not telling the truth. This simple definition covers an awesome amount of turf: making political promises that cannot be kept, convincing a blind date that you’re a thoracic surgeon (unless you actually are), committing Madoff-class hornswoggling, telling kids there’s a Santa Claus, employing situational ethics (remember those?)

and assuring a wife that the barber didn’t butcher her hair when she looks like she’s wearing a helmet made out of kimchi. Quite the gamut, and I didn’t even dip into the biggest category of all, the lies we tell ourselves.

Obviously, it’s not possible always to tell the truth, but when is lying all right? I’ll focus here on two of the more interesting classes of prevarication, one clean and simple and the other more challenging.

There are times when the truth should go untold, for example to avoid needless cruelty. Enter the white lie. There’s nothing to be gained by my telling my Alzheimer’s-plagued stepmother that she’s not in Italy, where she contentedly thinks she is, but rather in a nursing home in Golden Valley, where she actually is. Here, honesty runs the risk of devastation.

That example is a no-brainer, but white lies are often nuanced and

when nuance comes knocking, things get trickier. As a youth, I studied classical guitar with a man who had no tact at all. He was unflinchingly and thoroughly honest, and the result was mean and counterproductive. He was a lousy teacher and an unhappy man who ended up committing suicide (and no, it wasn’t because he had me as a student).

Fifty years on, as a guitar teacher myself, my students pay a dollar a minute for my expertise. I owe them my honesty, but there’s more than one way to skin that cat. I learned a lot from my poor ex-teacher about how not to teach, and thus a lot about how to teach. This is stuff any experienced pedagog knows: accentuate the positive and, through patient corrective instruction, eliminate the negative.

This is usually easy; my guitar students generally get things mostly right, so I am able honestly to say, for

example, “That’s great! Nice quality strums and good bass notes.” Then I’ll add, “Now, let’s look a little closer at your solo.” I prioritize the corrective issues—pick my battles—to move the student forward in a way that satisfies them. They don’t need to be Eric Clapton to enjoy playing the guitar, they just need to feel like him. In short, it’s neither necessary nor advisable to say everything you’re thinking, and there are nice ways to offer corrective criticism without having to lie.

More complicated and insidious is what I call the lie of convenience. What if a friend calls and says they’ve got an extra ticket to a Beyonce concert? I don’t care for Beyonce, and it’s easy to say that I’ve got other plans, and, wham, before I know it, I’ve told an outright lie there was no need to tell. I could have said, “Thanks much for the invite but, as talented as she is [no lie there], Beyonce is just not my cup of tea,” and thus, with a bit more effort and care, a lie could have gone untold. (And besides, what’s to keep the friend from calling next year with another Beyonce ticket?)

It’s these pure-bred lies of convenience that I try very hard not to tell. They are self-serving and lazy,

whereas the truth, carefully phrased, is cleaner and better but involves more work.

Things get more complicated when white lies commingle with lies of convenience. It’s easy to fend off an unwanted barbecue invitation from your insufferable Uncle Charlie by claiming a prior commitment. This is part white lie and part lie of convenience. I mean, you don’t want to hurt Charlie’s feelings, but you’d rather eat krill with penguins than his ribs with him and this gets you out of the commitment, for now at least. This is a fictional scenario—I have no doubt that you like Uncle Charlie and his ribs are actually pretty good if you slather enough sauce on them—but it points up how easily motives can get jumbled in this tricky terrain.

So, the takeaway is: Try not to hurt people’s feelings, but don’t buffalo them. Try to catch yourself telling the lazy lie of convenience before you tell it. If there’s hard truth to be told, do so lovingly and carefully. Oh, and don’t forget to take a look at those lies you tell yourself.

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

## St. Anthony Park Foundation grants more than \$43,000

There were many smiling faces at the Saint Anthony Park Community Foundation’s Spring Reveal on May 19 at Lake Monster Brewery, and at least 24 of them belonged to the representatives from the 24 causes supported by the foundation’s \$43,000 in 2016 grant awards.

There were the usual strong contributions to local schools supporting a variety of programs and initiatives like music, art, environmental education, as well first-time grants for language, special education and school community-building efforts.

First-time grantees included a locally grown organization, Chalkboard Commons, which is planning an event series to showcase the rich diversity of knowledge in St.

Anthony Park and match learning providers with interested audiences.

Shakespeare also got his due with a grant to support a summer workshop and performance, and Known By Heart received support to create writing workshops for older adults in our area.

According to grants committee chair, Bruce Weber, there was a good mix of awards. “We received requests for around \$80,000, with a lot of first-timers,” he said. “We wanted to make sure we took care of critical ongoing asks but with an eye toward helping new organizations get off the ground.”

The number of applications coming from the Creative Enterprise Zone continues to grow as that community begins to come together,

said executive director Jon Schumacher. “The board has made a conscious effort to include all of District 12 to build our larger community,” he said.

This was also the third year of grants for Transition Town (TT), the organization that won the foundation’s 15th Anniversary Grant Challenge. TT has used the \$15,000 in total grant money to hold community meetings, create and maintain a website, put out a regular newsletter, and build consensus around St. Anthony Park’s future sustainability.

The foundation also awarded the Bugle \$2,000 to help expand the monthly newspaper’s business and education coverage and update its website.

## Park B4 Dark returns this summer

The annual Park B4 Dark series returns on the third Thursday of each summer month—June 16, July 21 and Aug. 18—to the Como Avenue retail district in St. Anthony Park. This is the event’s sixth year and will include sidewalk specials, music, food and fun.

Highlights this year include the Bibelot’s 50th anniversary celebration. From 5-8 p.m. each Park B4 Dark night, the store will offer 20 percent off everything in the store. Additionally, everyone who comes into the Como Avenue Bibelot on those evenings will have the opportunity to enter a drawing to receive a \$50 Bibelot gift card.

This year also welcomes a number of new businesses in the shopping area and an enhanced KidZone in the Sunrise Bank

parking lot next door, sponsored by the Saint Anthony Park Community Foundation and Sunrise Bank. The Zone will feature a table filled with building links and tubes from CEZ toy company YOXO, Joy of the People’s inflatable soccer field, kids yoga, a craft corner, and Open Eye Figure Theater in August.

## Park Press annual meeting set for July

The annual meeting of the members of Park Press Inc., publisher of the Park Bugle, will be held at 8 a.m. Monday, July 11, at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, 2323 W. Como Ave. The agenda will include

More fun will be added added as the events take shape, but you can count on special deals, local musicians and food, as well as the Little Wine Shoppe’s wine-tastings from 4:30-7:30 p.m. at each event. Mark your calendars, bring the kids, have fun and support this unique business district.

the election of directors and other matters that may be raised by members. All are welcome to attend.

Park Press Inc., is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization guided by an elected board of directors.



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## Bell Museum from 1

120-seat theater and planetarium.

Through the use of interactive technology, a visit to the new Bell will be more of a hands-on experience than in the past, according to George Weiblen, the museum's interim scientific director and professor of plant biology.

"The exhibits will interpret nature and the universe through the lens of Minnesota," Weiblen said. "The themes—why earth is special, tree of life, web of life and imagining our future—are broadened beyond Minnesota natural history to include astronomy."

Many of the taxidermy dioramas so familiar to generations of Bell visitors will be moved to the new facility and incorporated into the new exhibits.

Given what seems like a stream of bad news regarding the state of the environment, wildlife and the planet in general, is the new museum going to be an optimistic place?

"We aim for a hopeful experience where visitors can learn from nature how we can live in equilibrium with the earth to ensure opportunity for generations to come," Weiblen said.

In her remarks to the student center audience, Hausman referred to the wisdom of legislative leaders

who in 1872 directed that a natural science collection be established at the University of Minnesota.

Afterward, she was asked if the new Bell was evidence that Minnesota had stayed true to the vision of those pioneers.

"There are dedicated [Bell] staff who have never lost the vision," she said. "Some at both the state and university level had perhaps a more limited understanding of and commitment to the vision and value."

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



District 66A Rep. Alice Hausman (center) throws a celebratory shovel of dirt into the air during the Earth Day groundbreaking of the Bell Museum. Photo by Kristal Leebrick

## Longtime curator reflects on the old Bell Museum and the new

By Gordon Murdock

In 2018, I'll be able to walk to the new Bell Museum at the corner of Cleveland and Larpentur from my home in St. Anthony Park. Whether I'm volunteering, dropping by for a program or to see an exhibition, that new easy access will be delightful.

I've been retired from the Bell Museum for four years after 31 years working there, but I still go in and try to be useful. Now the 10-minute walk that has taken me only to the campus bus, will take me to the Bell's front door.

Access will be easier, too, for the Bell's friends and neighbors who live near the new site. Everyone at the Bell is looking forward to close relationships with new neighbors and neighborhoods. It will be great, too, being much closer to the Bell's academic curators, many other faculty staff and students of the St. Paul Campus. It will make for much easier sharing of ideas and broader participation of the St. Paul academic community in the public life of the Bell.

The museum's current art deco building is loved for its beauty and

charm, but there is much that Bell staff won't miss. Poor access to parking (almost none on days of home football games), single-glazed windows that are hard to open or close, limited air conditioning, too few electrical outlets and ceilings too low for many traveling exhibits the Bell might host, to name just a few. The time has certainly come for a new building.

Most of the large, beautiful, educationally powerful dioramas will travel to the new site. There will be new elements of architectural beauty, sustainable design, much better heating and cooling, and enough electrical outlets.

And those who live too far away to walk will be able to park right on the site. Even on game days.

*Gordon Murdock was a curator at the Bell Museum of Natural History for 31 years and is an active member of the St. Anthony Park community.*



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## History:



## One darn thing after another

Roger Bergerson chronicles our remarkable past

## First Midway Stadium was a field of dreams that never came true

By Roger Bergerson

Sixty years ago, the City of St. Paul spent \$2 million to build a ballpark on north Snelling Avenue in hopes of attracting a major league baseball team.

Walter O'Malley praised the city's progressiveness and his sentiments have a familiar ring today.

"The value of sports," declared the president of the Brooklyn Dodgers, "is increasing daily and the cities that let opportunities slip by are the cities that someday will fade just like a rose in winter."

O'Malley made the remark while attending the April 1956 groundbreaking for Midway Stadium, soon to be the new home of the St. Paul Saints, the top Dodger farm club. (This was the first Midway Stadium, located on the east side of Snelling. The Mike Veeck-era facility on the west side came later.)

The Saints were moving from Lexington Park at Lexington and University avenues, where they had played for 50 years, to the site of a former gravel pit just north of Hamline University and southeast of the Minnesota State Fairgrounds.

But minor league baseball was not what civic leaders had in mind, and Midway was St. Paul's answer to Metropolitan Stadium in Bloomington, home to the Minneapolis Millers, the New York Giants' farm club.

At the groundbreaking, O'Malley said the chance that any of the New York teams (Dodgers, Giants, Yankees) would move was "remote." The following year, both the Dodgers and the Giants announced they were relocating to California.

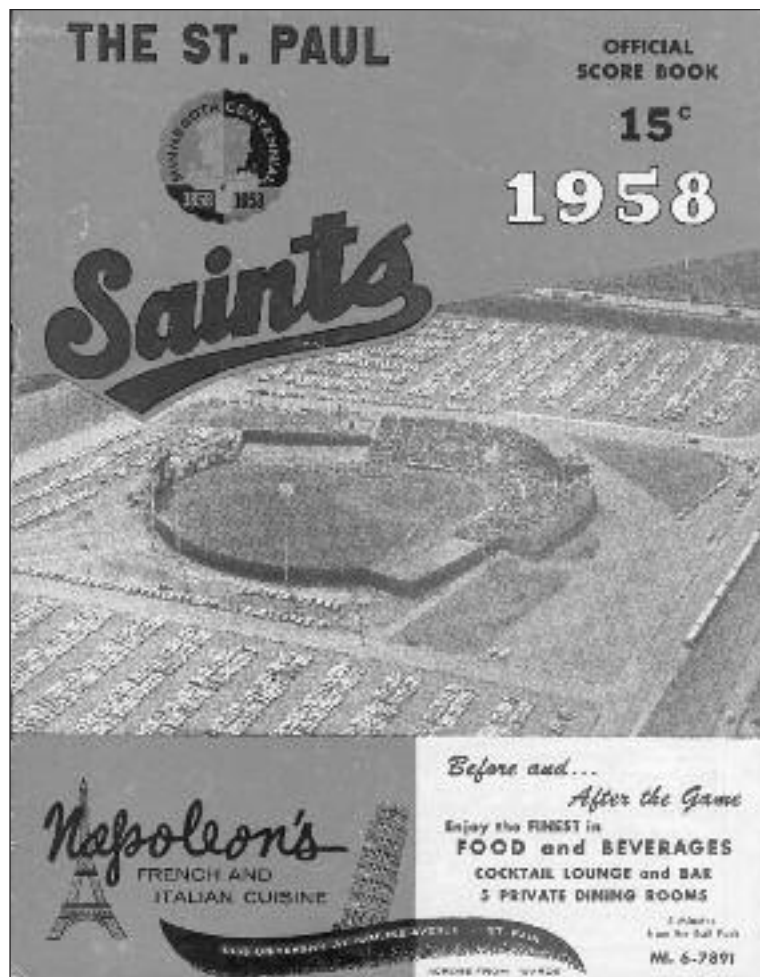
Wedge between two railroad tracks, 10,000-seat Midway Stadium was a modest affair indeed. The ballpark had a single deck and the stands extended only slightly beyond first and third base. But it was easily "expandable" to 30,000 or 40,000 seats, news stories emphasized, to meet the needs of a major league tenant.

The Saints home opener on April 25, 1957, was disappointing from a baseball perspective as the team lost a double-header to the Wichita Braves. Still, the fans seemed happy with the sparkling new facility.

In listing its many up-to-date features, Saints president Mel Jones said it was "a structure well worth talking about."

"Even a trip through the public restrooms proves inviting," boasted Jones. "Completely tiled with face brick tiling from top to bottom, they offer the finest in comfort and sanitation."

During the team's four years at Midway, the Saints played slightly better than .500 baseball and gave fans a look at future major leaguers



The scorebook from the second season at Midway Stadium. Author's collection

such as Stan Williams, Ron Perranoski, Norm Larker, Don Demeter, Jim Gentile and Johnny Goryl.

However, there's no indication that Midway Stadium, or St. Paul, was ever given serious consideration as a home for major league baseball. Any remaining illusions died when Calvin Griffith announced that he would move the Washington Senators to Minnesota and Metropolitan Stadium for the 1961 season.

The Saints departed to become the Omaha Dodgers; the Millers were transformed into the Seattle Rainiers.

Without a full-time tenant, Midway Stadium began to lose money and the term "white elephant" started appearing in print. All kinds of ideas were floated for the ballpark, including the addition of a Buckminster Fuller dome.

By the mid-1960s, the talk took on an air of desperation with the proposal to spend \$22 million to convert Midway into a giant sports

center to host the 1972 Summer Olympics.

In the meantime, the stadium hosted high school football and baseball, served as the home field for Bethel College football and was used by the Minnesota Vikings as a practice facility. There also was professional wrestling, boxing, rock concerts and softball whiz Eddie Feigner. St. Paul Civil Defense rented office space and Christmas trees were sold in the concourses.

Eventually, the city decided enough was enough, and in 1981 the first Midway Stadium was demolished as part of the Energy Park development.

Twelve years later, a new ballpark, even more spartan than the first, opened on the west side of Snelling as home to a new version of the St. Paul Saints. But that's another story entirely. . .

For more, see Stew Thornley's excellent book, *The St. Paul Saints: Baseball in the Capital City*, Minnesota Historical Society, 2015.

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## L I V E S L I V E D

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

### Laverne Dehlin

Laverne A. Dehlin, 90, of the Heritage at Lyngblomsten, formerly of Falcon Heights, died April 20.

He was an active member of First Lutheran Church of St. Paul. He spent his career working for the State of Minnesota. He and his wife, Jane, enjoyed traveling and square-dancing.

He was preceded in death by his parents and brothers, Lloyd and Maynard. He is survived by his wife, and brothers, Glen (Joyce), Leonard (June), Floyd, Eugene (Bobbi) and Dale (Laurain).

His funeral service was held April 29 at Lyngblomsten Care Center Chapel, with interment at Hillside Cemetery, Minneapolis.

### Donald Gabrielli

Donald E. Gabrielli, of Como Park, died peacefully surrounded by his loving family on May 1.

Don was deeply committed to coaching and volunteering in the northwest Como community, Holy Childhood Parish and Schola Choir. He enjoyed singing, dancing, bocce, golfing and most important, his family, especially being a loving *papa* to his eight grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Louis and Theresa, and sister, Geraldine Lobertman. He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Carmen (née Nelson); sons, Dave (Debra), Dan (Ann) and Doug (Julie); eight grandchildren; and siblings, Gene (Donna) Gabrielli and Paula (Ralph) Curella.

The family would like to acknowledge Sr. Mary Ann Williams for her support and companionship.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated May 5 at Holy Childhood Catholic Church, with inurnment at Fort Snelling National Cemetery.

### Suzanne Kraemer

Suzanne Jean Kraemer (née Kallevig), 49, of Falcon Heights, died May 6 at Our Lady of Peace Hospice

Home in St. Paul after a brief and courageous battle with cancer.

She is survived by her husband, Gregg; sons, Brandon and Andrew; parents, Gerald and Jean Kallevig; siblings, Kim (Patricia), Dan (Susan), Allan (Christine), Julie Nelson and Terri Poole; and mother-in-law, Patricia Kraemer.

A memorial service was held May 11 at Como Park Lutheran Church.

### Philip Miller

Philip J. Miller, 93, of Roseville, died April 15.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Henrietta. He is survived by his sister, May Hutchinson, of Iron River, Mich.

Phil was an active member of Corpus Christi Catholic Church and the St. Anthony Park Leisure Center. He also was a Boy Scout leader and enjoyed woodcarving and fishing. Phil loved dancing and traveling with his beloved wife, Henrietta.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated April 21 at Corpus Christi, with interment at Fort Snelling National Cemetery.

### Diane Ross

Diane Gilmore Ross, 84, of Falcon Heights, died on April 22. She had recently been diagnosed with advanced esophageal cancer.

Born Oct. 20, 1931, and raised in Denver, Diane spent every summer as a child and young adult at Geneva Glen, the camp her parents directed in the foothills outside of Denver. She met her husband, Braxton, at East High School, and they married in 1954. As a graduate of Smith College in 1953, she learned that women are as important, as capable and as valuable as men. She returned to Denver to teach high school English. After her marriage, she and Braxton moved to Japan, where he served in Army counter intelligence and she taught ESL and worked as librarian on the base. They lived with a Japanese

family with whom she maintained a lifelong friendship.

Diane's love of teaching continued her entire life in Chicago; Madison, Wis.; and most recently through ESL creative writing classes at Fairview Community Center in Roseville for 12 years. She also served on the Falcon Heights Human Rights Committee and Environment Commission. Diane reached out to people wherever she lived through her love of other cultures, singing, gardening, writing and a genuine interest in others.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Iris and Harold Gilmore, and husband W. Braxton Ross. She is survived by her son, John Ross; daughter, Annie Yetter (Steve); two grandchildren, Kathryn and George Yetter; and her kitty, Misty.

Her family expresses heartfelt gratitude to HealthPartners Hospice and particularly to friends Hal, Mary, Russ, Sherrie, Jessica and Paul for their compassionate care.

A memorial service will be held Sunday, June 12, at 2 p.m., at Unity Unitarian Church, St. Paul.

### Elizabeth Willis

Libby Willis, 85, of St. Anthony Park, died April 28.

Elizabeth Frances (Monaghan) Willis (Libby) was born in Halifax, Nova Scotia, on Oct. 24, 1930, to James and Frances (Boyle) Monaghan. She moved to Boston, Mass., in 1957, when she married Ray Willis, who was in graduate school at the time. They moved to Minnesota in 1959 and to St. Anthony Park in 1964.

She and her husband raised four sons and after they left home she became increasingly interested in gardening. She was one of the original members of the Ramsey County Master Gardeners and was active for more than 30 years. Following this interest she attended a program at 916 Vo-Tech and received a certificate as Horticulture Aide.

She then worked and volunteered in St. Paul Public Schools, helping with classroom gardening programs. This included St. Anthony Park Elementary and Frost Lake Elementary. She also used to staff the Master Gardeners (MG) information desk at Como Conservatory and the MG phone line.

Her body has been donated to the University of Minnesota Medical School, Anatomy Bequest Program. There will be no immediate memorial service but, on Nov. 9, the university will hold a memorial for all the people whose bodies have been donated.

Libby is survived by her husband, Raymond; four sons, Peter, Brian, Kevin, and Garth; four grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and two sisters, Terri Pothier of St. Catherine's, Ontario, and Tela Purcell of Lunenburg, Nova Scotia.



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# Everything is new at the old Methodist church on Hillside Ave.

By Kristal Leebrick

Just three days after St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church (UMC) merges with Centennial UMC of Roseville on June 1, Pastor Whitney Sheridan will lead her new congregation in its first community-service activity: Parishioners will host a diaper-changing station near the porta-potties at the St. Anthony Park Arts Festival, Saturday, June 4.

Two weeks later, the church will host a movie-in-the-park at Langford Park Saturday, June 18. *Frozen* will be shown at 7:30 p.m. and the evening will include live characters from the Disney movie.

"I think I have been volunteered to be Elsa (the star of the movie)," Sheridan said.

In January, St. Anthony Park UMC's congregation voted to merge with Centennial. The 127-year-old church, located at 2200 Hillside Ave., will be Centennial UMC, St. Anthony Park Campus and home to the church's contemporary service.

The church sanctuary will be renovated this summer to work with such a service, Sheridan said, and that includes replacing the pews with removable seating, adding a screen for song lyrics and outfitting the space to accommodate a live band. The church is also renovating the second floor for the children's programming and plans to put in an elevator that will reach all levels.

Many of the community groups housed in the church will remain there, although "this summer things will move around during the renovations," Sheridan said. Groups



Pastor Whitney Sheridan of Centennial United Methodist Church, St. Anthony Park Campus

that will continue operating at the church include St. Anthony Park Area Seniors, the Senior Leisure Center, Cub Scouts, SAP UMC Community Nursery School and a local mothers' group that meets there weekly.

Sheridan was hired as associate pastor at Centennial in June 2012, just after she graduated from seminary. She grew up in Eden Prairie, attended the University of Minnesota where she obtained a degree in art, and now lives in St. Paul's North End neighborhood with her husband and two miniature schnauzers, Wally and Jack.

Sheridan says she's excited about the merger. "It's something that our church has never done before. We've

been a local church for 63 years, so when we started these conversations with St. Anthony Park, there was a lot of uncharted territory."

Being the new pastor in a new campus of a church "is a humble spot to be in," she said, "but I'm just jazzed. I love the people I've met. Everyone takes such pride in the neighborhood. It does feel like a small town. We want to be a church that is really engaged and has the finger on the pulse of the community."

To that end, the church "bought a bouncy house that we can whip out whenever. And we're still trying to come up with something wildly creative for the [St. Anthony Park] Fourth of July celebration."

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2357 Bayless Place, 651-644-4502  
Website: [www.stceciliaspn.org](http://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)  
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9:15 a.m. worship (Summer schedule runs through Labor Day.)  
Christian tradition / Progressive faith / All are welcome

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Summer Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.  
Coffee Hour follows  
Art Fair Open House: Saturday, June 4  
VBS: June 20-24 Art Fair 2016.pdf

## ❖ ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Summer Schedule: One service on Sundays: 9:30 a.m.  
All are welcome!

To add your church to the directory, contact Bradley Wolfe at 952-393-6814 or [bradley.wolfe@parkbugle.org](mailto:bradley.wolfe@parkbugle.org)



# Scavenger hunt!

Match each photo to the advertiser in this issue of the Bugle.

Can you find these businesses? Each of the seven photos on this page show a detail of a business along Como or Carter avenue in St. Anthony Park. Match the photo with that business and each business's advertisement in this issue of the Bugle. Write the name of the business and the page the ad is on below.

Bring your completed form to the Bugle booth at the St. Anthony Park Arts Festival on Saturday, June 7, between 10 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. The booth will be on the south side of the St. Anthony Park Library with other community nonprofits (see the festival map in the Bugle Arts Festival Guide on page 13).

We'll draw two winners from the completed and correct forms that day. Prizes are \$50 each. When you complete your contest entry, don't forget to fill out your name and address at the bottom of the page.



1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_





St. Anthony Park

# Arts Festival

Saturday, June 4 / 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. / Como and Carter avenues

## Meet the featured artists at the festival

### Chuck Solberg

There's an entire wall of prize ribbons in potter Chuck Solberg's tidy studio on University Avenue. It's a testament to his artistic skill and accomplishment in mingled shades of blue, red, gold and green. It's also a mildly jarring note of bright coloration in a work space otherwise devoted to the subtle natural tones of wood-fired clay.

South St. Anthony Park resident Solberg, whose work can be found in permanent museum collections from the Weisman in Minneapolis to Japan, says, "I feel that clay should look like clay. There's no better marriage than wood fire and clay."

Press Solberg on the vital elements of his work and he'll talk about rhythm, balance and timing. He describes the three- to four-day process it took to turn a 40-pound "pipe of clay" into a 20-inch tall piece of art. "I wanted to take the pot out of round," he says, explaining why he cut the thrown shape into four sections held together by visible rough "seams," added a broken "collar" of clay and then paddled the result with a 2-by-4.

"I wanted to force the eye up and down. What I'm looking for is balance between sections, but also a rhythmic break."

He calls the result "Calyx" and it's just one of the pieces he'll have on display at the St. Anthony Park Arts Festival, where he will be a featured artist. The name Calyx comes from a Classical Greek vase form, but says Solberg drily, "It sounds more fancy than it needs to." It also hints where Solberg's artistic influences lie. "Even though my work is pretty sculptural," he explains, "it's based on ancient forms. I like the vessel as a form."

Solberg, who once served as the assistant to the legendary potter/sculptor Peter Voulkos, also claims a link between his work and the vocabulary of jazz. And Solberg should know. An accomplished jazz pianist who spent years touring as a professional musician before he ever threw his first pot, Solberg, 68, still performs four nights a week at Angelina's Kitchen in Woodbury.

"There's a rhythm to making pottery," he says. "Both music and pottery are hard work, physical. You engage eyes, hands and the brain. I improvise in both forms. I go from not knowing to finding a way into a piece."

He likes what he calls the "directness" of performing for a live audience in both his music and his pottery. Solberg is not one to dismiss the demands of the marketplace. "The perspective is different when you make your living from clay. You learn what people need," he says. He considers himself lucky to have found "a small base of customers who have the same idea of art as me." That recognition permits him to concentrate on creating art pieces that reflect the jazz values of "spontaneity and unpredictability."

He credits his wife, Margaret, "who handles the business side" for getting him where he is today, but he also acknowledges that his current position of relative artistic freedom was built on a solid foundation of "25 years ... making useful, serviceable mugs."

"I will always make mugs," he adds. "The best compliment I can get is when a customer tells me, 'I bought a mug from you 20 years ago and I'm still using it.'"

You can see Solberg's work in booth no. 50 at the festival, or you can find it at the Grand Hand Gallery in St. Paul, thegrandhand.com. —Judy Woodward



An example of Chuck Solberg's work at Crocker Art Museum

### Emily Gray Koehler

Emily Gray Koehler spent 2015 traversing Minnesota's natural world in search of trespassers, her word for non-native invasive plants that have found their way into the state's forests, fields and waterways.

These interlopers—garlic mustard, Queen Anne's lace, Amur silver grass and more—will change the state's landscape if humans don't act to curb their invasion, Koehler said. Her new series, "The Trespasser's Garden," combines the block colors of reduction woodcut prints with the "ethereal nature" of collagraphs made from the plants the printmaker gathered as she explored the ecological and environmental impacts of invasive plants on delicate ecosystems in Minnesota.

One of the St. Anthony Park Arts Festival's three featured artists this year, Koehler will exhibit work from the project on June 4. She received a 2015 Artist Initiative Grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board for "The Trespasser's Garden," which she hopes will evoke conversations, something she wants to happen when people come into her art fair booth or her studio. "Whether people want to buy a piece and hang it on their wall or they hate it," she said. "I want people to engage with it and think a little deeper."

In the print *Now They Are But Ghosts*, Koehler combines a color-reduction woodcut of a beaver, a Blanding's turtle and the water bird king rail with a collagraph of purple loosestrife, a beautiful but invasive plant that pushes out beneficial plant species and reduces breeding, nesting and foraging habitat for endangered vertebrates such as the animals in the print.

In *A Story of Sun and Shadow*, Koehler depicts how the invasive reed canary grass is slowly shading out the seedlings of the cottonwood trees, once abundant along Minnesota's river banks.

Koehler's early work explored the landscape of her childhood, which she spent growing up in a home nestled in the forest of northern lower Michigan and on her family's ancestral fruit farm, where she was introduced to the idea that humans shape nature, she said.

Her work has evolved to focus on how human actions such as forest succession, the movement of plant and animal ranges, and the introduction of exotic species have affected the natural processes and habitats of plants and animals.

"When I was little I imagined this forest where I grew up was wild and untouched," she said. "In retrospect, I realize not only was it certainly touched by humans, but it was designed so people could live in it with cleared areas, paths, trails."

Koehler now lives in White Bear Lake and works out of her studio and gallery, located at 2168 Third St. in downtown White Bear Lake. You can find Koehler at booth no. 10 at the arts festival Saturday, June 4.—Kristal Leebrick



The Fruits of Our Labor, Part I

### Ann Ringness

After four decades of working in leather, Ann Ringness still hand-cuts and sews everything she makes.

A longtime exhibitor at the American Craft Council's spring show in St. Paul, Ringness creates leather bags that she crafts herself, a practice that's unique to many leather artists, who hire sewers to help in the construction of their work, she said.



# The Artists

## Ceramics

James Bottomley  
Robert Briscoe  
Greg Cheesebro  
Ann Fendorf  
Vanessa Greene  
Richard Gruchalla  
    & Carrin Rosetti  
Peter Jadoonath  
William Kaufmann  
Wendy Penta  
Chuck Solberg  
    (featured artist)  
Amy Von Bargaen

## Glass & enamel

Lynn Barnum  
Steve Claypatch  
Mary Ila Duntemann  
Cecelia Hoffman  
Warren Slocum

## Mixed media

Kaitlyn Birk  
Helen Bond  
Emily Donovan  
Beth Marcus  
Thomas Miller  
Sharon Miller-Thompson  
William & Linda Sumner

## Fiber & Wearables

Marcia Almquist  
Patti Berg  
Sharon Cherney  
Dawnette Davis  
Barbara Geurink  
Shawn Glidden  
Bobbi Hoppman  
Nancy Hovland  
Anne Johnson  
Laura Lund  
Jean Manrique  
Andrea Martin  
Ann Masemore  
Marlene Meyer  
Ann Ringness (featured artist)

Kathleen Withers  
Bao Yang

## Painting & Drawing

Russel Dittmar  
Dan Mackerman  
Mark Peterson  
Christina Plichta  
Kathryn Weese

## Photography

Rachel Cain  
Daron Krueger  
Dan Leisen  
Doug Ohman

## Jewelry

Mary Anderson  
Terry Chism  
Nicole Collodoro  
Margaret Dittrich  
Gary Rex Erickson  
Robert Hale  
Sue Hammes-Knopf  
Julie Johnson

Leopold & Dina Lisovskis  
Brenda Nesheim-Fuller  
Sue Peoples  
Candyce Westfield  
Rebecca Wicklund

## Printmaking

Kendra Baillie  
Featured Artist  
Emily Gray Koehler  
    (featured artist)  
Richard Nelson

## Sculpture

David DeMattia  
Barbara Hanlon  
Sherrie Stockton  
Jennifer Wolcott

## Wood

Bill Brown  
Andrew Kringen  
Dave & Kathy Towley  
Sue Vogen

# Music on the library lawn

10–10:45 a.m.: Phil Rukavina, Renaissance lute  
11–11:45 a.m.: Ted Olsen Jazz  
Noon–12:45 p.m.: Adam Granger, acoustic guitar/singer  
1–1:45 p.m.: Greg Herriges, world music  
2–2:45 p.m.: Paul Seeba, folk and pop  
3–3:45 p.m.: Light of the Moon Trio, old-time/Americana  
4–4:45 p.m.: Miss Becky Kapell, country/folk

# Your arts festival to-do list

- Children: Make art at the Kids Art Tent, sponsored by the Saint Anthony Park Community Foundation
- Check out the used-book sale in the library's lower level.
- Find a favorite perennial at the St. Anthony Park Garden Club plant sale at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church.
- Visit your neighborhood nonprofit groups, including the Park Bugle, on the south and east sides of the library.
- Try your hand at the Bugle's name-that-business contest on page 10 and deliver it to the Bugle booth on the south side of the library.
- Listen to music at Speedy Market and on the library lawn.
- Check out the food vendors and the nearby St. Anthony Park restaurants.
- Eat, buy art and shop at the wonderful businesses in St. Anthony Park.

# St. Anthony Park Garden Club plant sale is just up the street

The St. Anthony Park Garden Club will hold its annual plant sale at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, at the corner of Como Avenue and Luther Place, just west of the arts festival, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Enter the sale at the Luther Place entrance.

The sale will feature a wide selection of perennials, shrubs, trees, vegetables, herbs and fruits. Garden club members donate plants and this year's sale will also feature special perennial pollinator packs from Glacial Ridge Growers, a sustainable grower.

The pollinator packs will consist of perennials aimed at building habitat to assist at-risk pollinators in gathering pollen and nectar each year.

The bee pollinator packs will contain six perennials, each labeled with care instructions, including Clematis recta, an herbaceous clematis that grows with thousands of tiny white, vanilla-scented blooms each June. The mix will also include Canada Milkvech, Prairie Smoke, Foxglove Beardtongue, Wild Blue Indigo and Wild Petunia.

The butterfly pollinator pack will include nectar-rich plants that will draw butterflies to your garden, including Wild Blue Lupine and five Liatris species.

The monarch pack will include six species of milkweed to plant in sunny locations. These are the plants where your family members can watch the monarch development from egg to adult.



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Sponsored by the Saint Anthony Park Community Foundation

ST. ANTHONY PARK Arts FESTIVAL

Luther Place

SAP Lutheran Church

9-2 Garden Club PLANT SALE

KIDS' ART TENT

Artists 50-61

Artists 70-82

Artists 71-79

Artists 80-84

Artists 85-92

HENNA

Como Avenue

to 280

to Snelling

June 4, 2016 10 - 5

COMO AVENUE ACTIVITIES:

- Food
- Community Groups
- Water Wars
- Music & Food at Tim & Tom's Speedy Market

MAKE A POT ON THE WHEEL

The St. Anthony Park Arts Festival is coordinated by the St. Anthony Park Library Association and provides funding for summer reading programs.

PRIMARY SPONSORS:

- Kenwood by Andersen
- The Harlan Boss Foundation for the Arts

ACTIVITY SPONSORS:

- The Bibelot Shops
- Bungalow Pottery
- Carter Avenue Frame Shop
- St. Anthony Park Community Foundation
- Steve Townley Realty
- Tim & Tom's Speedy Market

Music on the Library lawn 10 am - 2:45 pm

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## Artist profiles from 11

"I don't like to give up control," she laughed.

Ringness, one of the three featured artists at the St. Anthony Park Arts Festival on June 4, fell into leatherwork in the 1970s. She had just moved back to St. Cloud, her hometown, from Los Angeles, where she had been working with her then-husband, who was a printmaker working with lithographs.

"The real story is I like working with my hands," she said. She had always worked in the arts, but in 1974 she needed work.

She was hired by a local leather shop, and that began her long career of working in that medium.

Ringness describes herself as a "Type A person and a hard worker" who found herself working for a business that was having trouble paying her for her labor. She eventually started her own business, "which I called 'Leatherworks,' thinking that was a really creative name."

Ringness went into partnership with a friend and opened a shop. On the side, she did alterations for Berman Buckskin, where she learned to construct bags.

Eventually, she began working on her own out of her home and exhibiting at arts festivals and shows in Minnesota and neighboring states.

"I've done everything, different custom work, repair," she said. "Now I just



Ann Ringness bags, above, and a detail from one of her pieces, at right

prefer to do my own work and my own bags. I just want to do what I want to do."

She describes her work as conservative and functional, but said she works "out of the box" with surface design. She burns images into the leather to create a positive-negative effect. Her designs include hands, letters and abstract images. And she is adding embellishments such as crimped metal, buttons and handmade silver pieces. She is also moving into creating bags with upholstery fabric, which has enabled her to make larger tote-size bags.

"Function is my big thing," she said, and that's what sells in Minnesota.



Like most artists, Ringness doesn't work a regular 9-to-5 schedule. "I work all the time," she said. "I work right here in my house," and if she finds a good movie on Netflix to watch while she's creating, she will work late into the night.

You'll find Ringness in booth no. 33 at the festival. — Kristal Leebrick

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## Business News

# Acupuncture and massage have gone to the dogs (and cats and ...)

*St. Francis Animal and Bird Hospital offers integrative health care to pets*

By Alex Lodner

St. Francis Animal and Bird Hospital has been providing veterinary services to pets and their families in Roseville since 1992. A recent expansion into a space between Gold Eagle Dry Cleaning and Fresh Munchiez on Larpenteur Avenue, just west of the original clinic, will allow Dr. Jennifer Blair, DVM, CVA, and her team to offer more extensive and unique services to the beloved pets in our community.

Blair, who purchased the practice in 2006, saw a need that was not being met.

"I see a variety of patients with unique needs and I felt like pieces of the treatment puzzle were missing," she said. The new clinic will offer acupuncture, laser therapy, massage therapy, Traditional Chinese Veterinary Medicine (TCVM) consultations, and hospice and palliative care, all under the name St. Francis Integrative Services.

The new space was needed in order to provide a quieter, more peaceful surrounding for these specialty treatments, according to Dr. Blair. The new clinic will be one of the few in Minnesota to offer such a comprehensive service line. St. Francis Animal and Bird Hospital will continue to operate as usual from its corner location on Larpenteur and Fernwood Street.

Blair is a certified veterinary acupuncturist and will perform acupuncture services at St. Francis Integrative Services.

"Acupuncture has been practiced in China in both humans and animals for thousands of years," she said. "It is one of the branches of Traditional Chinese Veterinary Medicine. It can be useful for ailments like arthritis, allergies, paralysis and long-term chronic conditions like heart disease and kidney failure. The goal of



Mr. Spud receives acupuncture treatment from Dr. Jennifer Blair at St. Francis Integrative Services. Photo by Lori Hamilton

acupuncture and the other branches of TCVM is to restore the balance in the body."

Christine Severance, CVT, CMT, director of integrative services at the clinic, recently completed her Canine Massage Therapy Certification. She handles massage

therapy for patients.

"Massage can be a valuable component of physical therapy for patients. It is beneficial for our athlete patients for pain, can help with digestive or neurological issues and

*St. Francis to 17*

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❖ Como High Choir	❖ Murray Wolfridge
❖ Como High English	❖ Park Bugle
❖ Language Learners	❖ St. Anthony Park
❖ Como High Band	❖ Area Seniors
❖ Como High	❖ St. Anthony Park
❖ Special Education	❖ Elementary
❖ CEZ Action Committee	❖ Music in the Park
❖ Keystone Community	❖ Series
❖ Services	❖ Shakespeare in
❖ Known by Heart	❖ St. Anthony Park
❖ Mid-continent	❖ Transition Town
❖ Oceanographic	



[www.sapfoundation.org](http://www.sapfoundation.org) / 651-641-1455



## Business News

# Chocolate shop to open in Park 24

By Kristal Leebrick

Area residents with a sweet tooth rejoice: Hudson, Wis., confectioner Knoke's Chocolate & Nuts has leased a 1,000-foot retail space in Ned Wesenberg's Park 24 apartment complex at 2301 Como Ave. and plans to open Sept. 1.

The 16-year-old company specializes in handmade chocolates, roasted nuts and baked goods and also sells bulk, wrapped and nostalgic candies and ice cream. Knoke's has a storefront in downtown Hudson and a production facility there.

The store moving into St. Anthony Park will include 24 flavors of ice cream.

Owner Dave Knoke had looked at opening a store in St. Anthony Park five years ago, said business manager Susan Tierney, "but we weren't quite ready. Now, it feels right," she said.

The St. Anthony Park community is similar to Hudson, Tierney said. "It feels like a close-knit community. We've spent enough time in the neighborhood and think it's a perfect fit."

The Hudson store sells a variety



Knoke's business manager Susan Tierney said the inside of the St. Anthony Park shop will be similar to the Hudson shop, shown here.

of baked goods, including homemade pies. "We will have some baked things in the [St. Anthony Park] store," Tierney said, "but pies will be special orders." Brownies, bars and cookies on hand at the new store.

Initially, Knoke's plans to be open Monday-Thursday, 11 a.m.-8 p.m., Friday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-9 p.m., and Sunday, noon-8 p.m. "This is how we'll start, and then see what happens," Tierney said.

The store will be hiring. To find out more, email [info@knokemail.com](mailto:info@knokemail.com) or call 715-381-9866.

Park 24 will have two retail spaces when the building is completed, according to Wesenberg. A 1,300-square-foot space is still available to lease.

# Blomberg Pharmacy closes after seven decades on Hamline Ave.

By Kristal Leebrick

After more than 70 years at 1583 N. Hamline Ave. in Falcon Heights, Blomberg Pharmacy's owners have sold the business to Walgreen's.

"It was the right business decision but will never be the right heart decision," co-owner Richard Zunker said. "I would have preferred to have stayed here for the next 20 years."

Zunker and partner Robert Koziol bought Blomberg's from Julie Johnson and Norma Nisle eight years ago. Zunker and Koziol were the fourth owners of the pharmacy, which opened in 1943. The partners also owned Erickson Drug in Lakeville, which they also sold to Walgreen's.

The pharmacy closed on April 27, but the store will be open through the end of May to liquidate its stock of greeting cards, giftware



Blomberg's is open through the end of May to liquidate the store's stock of greeting cards and medical supplies.

and medical supplies. Zunker and Koziol do not own the building, but have a lease that runs through November.

Koziol is planning to retire but Zunker, who is 48, will be working at a friend's pharmacy in Blaine.

Closing Blomberg's wasn't an easy decision, Zunker said, but with customers being pressured by insurance companies to get their prescriptions filled through mail order and the increased paperwork resulting from the federal Affordable Care Act, small independent drugstores are being squeezed, he said. Insurance companies are offering "zero co-pays," something

his store and other independents can't offer.

It also doesn't help that large chains have moved in and the "younger generation doesn't see the value in small independents," Zunker said.

Erickson Drug was the last independent drugstore in Dakota County, "and that's a pretty big county," he said. "Sooner or later, all that will be left are big chains. I guess all good things must come to an end."

"We think everybody for the business they have given us over the years, but it wasn't enough because of factors out of my control and out of the patients' control," Zunker said.

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## ‘Enchantment’ moves into Milton Square

By Kristal Leebrick

Enchantment. Romance. Comfort.

These are words Kathryn Menaged uses to describe her shop, Scarborough Fair, which is moving into the former Micawber's Books space in Milton Square at the end of May.

The store—which features romantically inspired women's clothing, gifts, collectibles, art and unique bridal wear—will have a soft opening on Saturday, June 4, during the St. Anthony Park Arts Festival and a grand opening in September.

Scarborough Fair opened three years ago on West Seventh Street in St. Paul. Menaged's move to St. Anthony Park was perhaps just as magical as the wares she sells in her shop.

"It was very unexpected," she said. Scarborough Fair is a member of the Metro Independent Business Alliance (IBA), as is Milton Square. A few weeks ago, Milton Square proprietor Heather O'Malley sent out an email to MetroIBA members announcing rental space open in the square. Menaged's lease was ending on West Seventh "and it all fell into place," she said. "I had been to Muffuletta, but I had forgotten that this little enchanted shopping area existed."

Menaged had worked for more than three decades creating and manufacturing women's fashion accessories in New York City. She came to Minnesota seven years ago for what was intended to be a two-week trip. She stayed.



Kathryn Menaged (right) and Becca Johansson of Scarborough Fair. Photo by Kristal Leebrick

"I have gone through a lot of change in the last seven years," she said. She had owned three separate businesses in New York and "the way I dressed was in a suit, a stylish suit, but that was not what I wanted my life to be about. I had quit drinking, quit smoking, and I had gained a lot of weight," she said. She had contracted Lyme's disease and didn't exercise.

"My body changed. I wanted a shop that celebrated the feminine divine. I started thinking about the things I loved back in high school, my belief in fairies, [the book] *Mists of Avalon*."

She decided to open a business where women "feel lovely and lovable," she said. "[Scarborough Fair is] about spreading the joy—and about customer service."

The store carries sizes from XS to 3X. Clothing includes nontraditional bridal wear, hats by

Minnesota milliner HatTrix (Menaged hosts the event "Hats, Horses and High Tea" each spring to coincide with the Kentucky Derby), and it's the only shop in St. Paul that will carry the Eileen Fisher line.

Menaged features a fine artist two to three times a year. The store will showcase the work of Minneapolis multi-media artist Elle Hettinger in June. Hettinger will be at the shop Saturday, June 4, noon-4 p.m.; Monday, June 5, 5-8:30 p.m.; and Tuesday, June 7, 5-8:30 p.m.

Scarborough Fair will be open every day for a while as Menaged monitors the traffic. The store was closed on Sundays, Mondays and Wednesdays at the previous address. On days when the store is not open, Menaged keeps private appointments with clients, such as brides and mothers of the bride or groom.

## Como Dockside adds outdoor counter service, expanded menu

By Alex Lodner

Como Dockside, the new restaurant in the Como Pavilion, has been hugely popular since opening its doors a year ago, but don't expect them to rest on their laurels. Over the winter, the crew at Dockside has been busy planning new food outlets that they hope will enhance diners' experience.

First, there is the addition of counter service just inside the south gates of the promenade. The new walk-up counter will make it more convenient to grab a po' boy and those addictive fries for lake-view dining, a beverage or two before a show, or a to-go order of beignets for a walk around the lake. You wouldn't want to walk that 1.6 miles without pastries, would you?

Thanks to a shiny new grill and a couple of fryers, the lakeside concession window now serves French fries, hush puppies and corn-on-the-cob along with house-made sausages, hot dogs, burgers and ice cream. Owner Jon Oulman promises cold-press coffee and other treats will soon be added to the menu.

Sometime before Memorial Day, Oulman hopes to christen a new dining dock in his continued effort to allow visitors to connect more fully with the lake itself. (Dramamine not included.)

"Finally, we will have seating lakeside and on the dock for 100-plus diners," Oulman said.

Inside the restaurant, the full table and bar service implemented in December will continue, with seasonal items introduced in April, including buttermilk fried-green tomatoes floating in a puddle of

kicky remoulade or a fresh-as-spring salad with cucumber, mint, bib lettuce, pickled red onion, radishes and a sweet vinaigrette.

The pavilion's Music in the Parks season kicked off earlier this month and will feature a variety of entertainment acts throughout the summer.

### St. Francis from 15

can also greatly increase quality of life for our geriatric patients by helping with pain management and improving overall mobility," Severance said. Massage therapy can be used routinely to help muscles stay healthy and may help prevent injuries in active pets. In addition to massage therapy, Severance is also certified as a pet-loss counselor and is involved with palliative and hospice care, as well as bereavement services for grieving families.

Severance, along with other technicians at the facility, also performs laser therapy for pets. Laser therapy is used to reduce pain and inflammation and increase healing by increasing circulation, which leads to increased oxygen and nutrient delivery. This helps reduce pain, stiffness, muscle fatigue, swelling and inflammation, she said.

Dr. Annie Seefeldt, DC, CVSMT and her team at

Chiropractic for Every Body (CFE) provide chiropractic services and other integrative services out of the clinic.

Seefeldt is certified in veterinary spinal manipulative therapy and was the first board-registered animal chiropractor in Minnesota. Chiropractic care has been officially available for animals since 2008, when the Minnesota Legislature passed a law allowing only specially trained chiropractors to provide services to animals.

"This expansion of our services really highlights the innovation in caring for pets that St. Francis is so well-known for," Blair said.

St. Francis Integrative Services will hold an open house on Sunday, June 26, from 1 to 4 p.m. Families are invited to tour the facility. There will be prizes and giveaways, and Sarah Beth photography will be on hand, as well.



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# JUNE EVENTS

VENUE INFORMATION IS LISTED AT THE END OF THE CALENDAR. SEND YOUR EVENTS TO [calendar@parkbugle.org](mailto:calendar@parkbugle.org) by Wednesday, June 8, to be included in the July issue.

## 1 WEDNESDAY

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

St. Anthony Park Book Club, "Where'd You Go, Bernadette?" by Maria Semple, St. Anthony Park Library, 6:30-8 p.m.

## 2 THURSDAY

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

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

Preschool story time in Mandarin Chinese, 10:30-11:30 a.m. During June, this story time will take place in the fire room at the Commonwealth Terrace Community Center, 1250 Fifield Ave., Falcon Heights 55108.

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.

Murray Rock Band's final performance of the school year, Murray Middle School, 6:30 p.m. Open to the public.

## 4 SATURDAY

St. Anthony Park Garden Club Plant Sale, St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

St. Anthony Park Arts Festival, along Como and Carter Avenues, St. Anthony Park, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

St. Anthony Park Library used book sale, St. Anthony Park Library, lower level, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Landscape Revival Native Plant Expo & Market, Cub Foods Community Pavilion, 1201 W. Larpenteur Ave., 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Landscape Revival promotes the use of native plants for their beauty and benefits to wildlife, pollinators, beneficial insects and clean water. No neonicotinoids or other systemic insecticides.

## 6 MONDAY

St. Anthony Park Area Seniors, Creative Crafts, St. Anthony Park United Methodist Church, 10 a.m.-noon. Cost is \$5. Call

651-642-9052 to register.

## 7 TUESDAY

Live Jazz at the Library from the Twin Cities Jazz Festival, Tres Mundos, St. Anthony Park Library, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

## 9 THURSDAY

Kaleidoscope Kids Series: Young Dance: Dance Together, St. Anthony Park Library, 10:30-11:30. For children birth-5 with a caregiver.

St. Anthony Park Area Seniors Cinema Series, "Bridge of Spies," St. Anthony Park Library, 2-4 p.m. All welcome. Free.

## 10 FRIDAY

Game Day with St. Anthony Park Area Seniors, City Gables, 10 a.m.-noon. Free.

Tablet and Smartphone Clinic, St. Anthony Park Library, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

## 13 MONDAY

Pippins lunch outing with St. Anthony Park Area Seniors, 2905 Snelling Ave., 11 a.m. Lunch expense on your own. Call 651-642-9052 for more information.

## 14 TUESDAY

Essential Computer Skills, Part I, St. Anthony Park Library, 10:30-12:30 p.m. Class size is limited. Call 651-642-0411 to register.

Summer Spark: Bill the Juggler, St. Anthony Park Library, 10:30-11:30 a.m. and 2-3 p.m.

## 16 THURSDAY

Kaleidoscope Kids Series: Dreamland Arts: "Elephant Up a Tree," St. Anthony Park Library, 10:30-11:30. For grades preschool-3.

Preschool story time in Mandarin Chinese, 10:30-11:30 a.m., Fire Room at the Commonwealth Terrace Community Center, 1250 Fifield Ave., Falcon Heights 55108.

Essential Computer Skills, Part II, St. Anthony Park Library, 10:30-12:30 p.m. Class size is limited. Call 651-642-0411 to register.

## 17 FRIDAY

Game Day with St. Anthony Park Area Seniors, City Gables, 10 a.m.-noon. Free.

Mini-Maker Story Time, St. Anthony Park Library, 10:30-11:30 a.m. For preschool and early elementary-aged children.

## 18 SATURDAY

Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare Walk and Roll 3K Family Fun Walk, Como Regional Park.

Check-in and registration opens at 8:30 a.m. Walk begins at 10 a.m. Find out more about this fundraiser at [gillettechildrens.org/WalkRoll](http://gillettechildrens.org/WalkRoll).

Early Music with the Warwick Consort, Renaissance duets and trios, St. Anthony Park Library, 1:30-2:15 p.m.

## 20 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.

## 21 TUESDAY

Summer Spark: RADZOO (The Reptile and Amphibian Discovery Zoo), St. Anthony Park Library, 10:30-11:30 a.m. and 2-3 p.m.

## 23 THURSDAY

Kaleidoscope Kids Series: Voice of Culture: African Drum and Dance, St. Anthony Park Library, 10:30-11:30. For family audiences of all ages.

Shakespeare in St. Anthony Park presents "The Two Gentlemen of Verona," behind Gullixson Hall on the Luther Seminary campus, 7 p.m.

## 24 FRIDAY

Mini-Maker Story Time, St. Anthony Park Library, 10:30-11:30 a.m. For preschool and early elementary-aged children.

Shakespeare in St. Anthony Park presents "The Two Gentlemen of Verona," St. Anthony Park Library grounds, noon-1 p.m. and behind Gullixson Hall on the Luther Seminary campus at 7 p.m.

Co-ed Drum Circle, Women's Drum Center, 6:30 p.m. \$10 at the door. All levels of experience are welcomed and encouraged. Drums provided. Find out more at [www.womensdrumcenter.org](http://www.womensdrumcenter.org).

## 25 SATURDAY

Gibbs Farm Dakota Day, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Admission is \$8 for adults, \$7 for seniors and \$5 for children 3-16.

## 26 SUNDAY

Sunday Afternoon Book Club, On Beauty by Zadie Smith, Micawber's, 1:30 p.m. All are welcome.

## 28 TUESDAY

Summer Spark: Schieffelly Puppets, St. Anthony Park Library, 10:30-11:30 a.m. and 2-3 p.m.

"Behind the Curtain: Calendar Girls" with the Park Square Theatre, St. Anthony Park Library, 7-8:30 p.m.

## 30 THURSDAY

Kaleidoscope Kids Series: Dreamland Arts: Children's Stories from India, St. Anthony Park Library, 10:30-11:30. For ages 3 and older.

Shakespeare in St. Anthony Park performs scenes and speeches from Shakespeare, behind Gullixson Hall on the Luther Seminary campus, 7 p.m.

## SENIOR EXERCISE

**St. Anthony Park Area Seniors**

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

**Fridays,** St. Anthony Park Library, 2:30-3:30 p.m. (No class on June 3)

**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

**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

## VENUES

Arbor Pointe Senior Apartments, 635 Maryland Ave. W.

City Gables, 1611 Pleasant St., Lauderdale

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

Gibbs Farm, 2097 W. Larpenteur Ave., Falcon Heights, 651-646-8629

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

Micawber's Books, 2238 Carter Ave. (new store just off the Milton Square courtyard), 651-646-5506

Olson Campus Center, Luther Seminary, 1490 Fulham St.

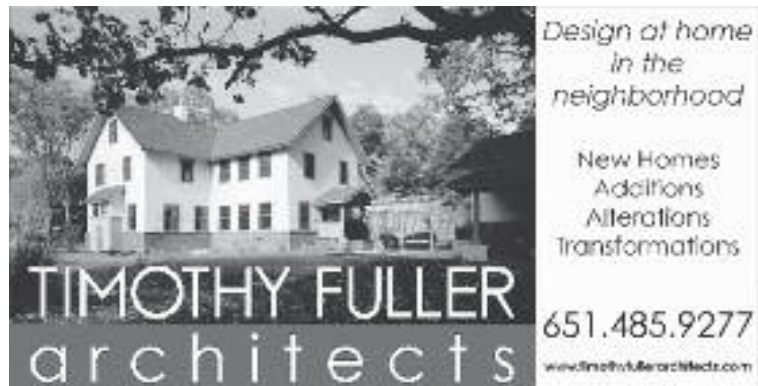
St. Anthony Park Elementary School, 2180 Knapp St., 651-293-8735

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

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

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

Women's Drum Center, 2242 W. University Ave., [www.womensdrumcenter.org](http://www.womensdrumcenter.org)







## Neighbors

### MNSCU awards local man with 'Excellence in Teaching' award

William Breen, English instructor at Anoka-Ramsey Community College and Como Park resident, was recognized with an Excellence in Teaching award by the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Board of Trustees in April.

Breen was cited for earning the respect and admiration of his students and colleagues at Anoka-Ramsey and for the passion, commitment and joy he brings to his work as a writing teacher. Breen holds a master of fine arts degree in creative writing and is actively engaged in professional organizations, networks through social media and conferences, has served as a visiting writer to a community school in Minneapolis, and has an ongoing commitment to the Writing in Prison Project, where he has served as a visiting writer to the correctional facility at Lino Lakes.



Bill Breen

### Como author will read from new book at Merriam Park Library

Como author and illustrator Dalyce Elliott Young will play her violin and tell her Moonbeam Book award-winning story *Ellie and the Golden Cricket*, Tuesday, June 7, at 10:30 a.m. at Merriam Park Library, 1831 Marshall Ave., St. Paul.

The book, published by Beaver's Pond Press in 2015, tells the story of how a young girl learns the secret of playing the violin.

### Murray alum releases new game

Frank Thibault, a 1942 graduate of Murray High School in St. Anthony Park, recently released his new board game "In Kahoots," available through Amazon. Players think up winning hints and make guesses to phrases saying, "getting in kahoots" to a half-right guesser. Players then hope to score with a breakthrough clue.

This adult family game can also be played by "above-average children," Thibault said.

Thibault grew up in the Como Park neighborhood and graduated from Murray High School and the University of Minnesota. He now lives in Silicon Valley.

Thibault's interest in creating games started as a teenager, when he created a football board game. Other games followed, which he gave away as Christmas gifts.

Thibault's first published board game was "Ploy" (1970), one of four



Frank Thibault

of his games purchased and published by 3M.

### St. Paul scout volunteers awarded

A number of area Boy Scout volunteers received awards April 7 at the Northern Star Council, Boy Scouts of America, annual volunteer recognition dinner. The North Star District of the Northern Star Council serves the youth of St. Paul. District awards and their recipients include:

*Ralph Davis Award and District Award of Merit:* Ethan Helmer, Troop 17, St. Anthony Park Church of Christ

*Henri A. Eisenhower Award:* Joan Connolly, Troop 218, Holy Childhood Catholic Church

*Unsung Hero Award:* Dean Schafer, Troop 17, St. Anthony Park Church of Christ

*Cubmaster of the Year Award:* Greg Schabert, Pack 183, Maternity of Mary Catholic Church

### Local alt-country band to host album release show at Barely Bros.

With the release of their second album, *Whiskey Soaked Heart*, alt-country band Footfall will play a free show Saturday, June 11, 3-5 p.m., at Barely Brothers Records, 783 Raymond Ave.

The show will give music lovers a chance to hear original material from Twin Cities duo Jim Christiansen and Debbie Cushman, six hard-working guitars and a mandolin named Honey, along with cover songs showcasing the musicians who have influenced them the most, including Jay Farrar (Uncle Tupelo, Son Volt), Hank Williams Sr. and Bob Dylan.

Bandmates on and off for more than 15 years, in various incarnations, Footfall crystallized about five years ago.

Christiansen is originally from Falcon Heights and attended Hamline University. Cushman, a Wisconsin transplant, works her day job as a nonprofit administrator just a couple of blocks away from the vinyl store.

Footfall will also play at the Stone Arch Bridge Festival on June 19. You can find out more about them at [www.footfallmusic.com](http://www.footfallmusic.com).

### Learn about Abraham Lincoln at Roseville Library presentation

What do we really know of Abraham Lincoln? Join presidential historian J.B. Andersen as he talks about Lincoln's sometimes ne'er-do-well relatives, his financial success as a striving young lawyer, and the

mysterious illnesses that afflicted his body and his spirit Wednesday, May 25, at 12:30 p.m. at Roseville Library, 2180 N. Hamline Ave.

### Prospect Park Garden Walk and plant sale set for June 25

The annual Prospect Park Garden Walk and plant sale will be held Saturday, June 25, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. The Garden Walk is free.

This year's theme is "nourish and nurture" and will feature gardens inspired by water, food and/or healing.

A map of the featured gardens will be available the week before the walk at the Signature Café, 130 S.E. Warwick Ave., and University Avenue establishments, Schneider Drugstore, Hub City Café, Textile Center and Dunn Bros. Maps will also be available the day of the walk at the plant sale in the parking lot at Pratt School, at the corner of Orlin and Malcolm avenues.

For more information, visit [pperr.org/events/garden-walk.html](http://pperr.org/events/garden-walk.html).

### Living With God class at Emmaus

The Rev. Dr. Thomas Trapp will continue his course "Living With God" at Emmaus Lutheran Church, 1074 W. Idaho Ave., St. Paul, on Thursdays beginning June 2. Times are 1-3 p.m. or 6:30-8:30 p.m.

### Police chief from 3

making the decision to go into law enforcement in a kind of backdoor way."

For more than 30 years he worked his way up through the ranks, making detective after six years as a street cop, and eventually rising to captain and the chief responsible for the three jurisdictions.

"Leaving now feels right," Ohl said. "I'm not angry. I'm not burned up. I feel good. This job is tough on people. It's tough on the patrol officer, and tough on the administration. Everything's my fault, and I'm on call 24 hours a day."

### Rising tensions

These days, it's almost impossible to have a conversation about policing without discussing racial profiling and police shootings, particularly around incidents like last year's officer-involved shooting of Jamar Clark in North Minneapolis. It's a topic that Ohl does not shy away from.

"If it bleeds it leads, that whole thing," Ohl said. "The media reports on crime, and people think that crime is out of control, even in years where we can show crime is down significantly."

Comparing big-picture crime stats, Ohl points at the media and what he calls "white-hot" attention on a few incidents as key reasons why police-community relations have become tense. The lack of a platform for police to tell their stories makes him worry for the future.

The 10-week class is free. Register in advance by contacting Emmaus, [emmaus@q.com](mailto:emmaus@q.com) or 651-489-9426. Find out more online at [www.emmaus-lutheran-church.org](http://www.emmaus-lutheran-church.org).

### Pride of New York to perform at Minnesota Irish Music Weekend

U.S.-based band, Pride of New York, will headline a weekend of

traditional Irish music instruction and performance at the ninth annual Minnesota Irish Music Weekend June 10-12 at the Center for Irish Music, 836 N. Prior Ave., St. Paul.

The event offers a free Friday night Great Session Experience, a Saturday-night concert and workshops and lectures. Learn more at [centerforirishmusic.org/mim](http://centerforirishmusic.org/mim).

## Community fundraiser for Gus Smith June 5

A benefit for 12-year-old Gus Smith of Falcon Heights will be held Sunday, June 5, 12-4 p.m., at Joy of the People, 890 Cromwell Ave., St. Anthony Park.

Gus has been diagnosed with stage four Hodgkin's lymphoma. All proceeds from the event will go toward helping Gus's family with medical bills and expenses.

The fundraiser will include a lunch of roast pig, brisket, vegan sloppy joes, beverages and sweets, along with live music and a DJ, and a silent auction.

Suggested donation is \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids.

For more information or to donate to the fundraiser, go to



Gus Smith

[www.facebook.com/groups/benefitforgus](http://www.facebook.com/groups/benefitforgus). To donate to the silent auction, contact [Marylou@hidalgo-go-go.com](mailto:Marylou@hidalgo-go-go.com). To volunteer, contact [frazier.cc@gmail.com](mailto:frazier.cc@gmail.com).

year veteran of the department, Mangseth was one of the original community liaison officers in Falcon Heights.

Meanwhile, Ohl is going to take a well-earned vacation and is interested in getting involved with small businesses or volunteering in the community.

### Always on duty

At the end of our interview, Ohl's ears seemed to perk up and he became distracted.

"Hold on," he said. "We may need to cut this short."

Ohl went over to the police radio in the corner of his office and adjusted the volume knob. Somewhere just over the Minneapolis border, someone was on a rooftop acting erratically, and St. Anthony Police Officers were on the scene.

"May be 'excited delirium,'" the voice on the radio said.

Ohl paced for a minute, speaking into the walkie-talkie. A tense moment passed before one of the voices on the radio responded back with an "all-clear" message. A sigh of relief.

"That's the job," Ohl said. "'Excited delirium' is something new, often referring to people who might be on drugs like meth. Years ago you would have never had an officer diagnosing medical conditions on sight. But now we do."

It was just another day on pins and needles in the St. Anthony Police Department. For Chief John Ohl, it was one of his last.





## CPHS Cougar Sports

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

# Como “BEASTBot” qualifies for state robotics tournament

Como Park Robotics, branded as Como “BEASTBot 2855” is one of 200 teams in the Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) Robotics Activity. The top 30 teams in various regional competitions advance to the state tournament based on a formula that includes robot and marketing performance.

With a strong performance at the 10,000 Lakes Regional, held at Williams Arena in early April, Como’s BEASTBot made it to state for the first time since the program began in 2009.

If you didn’t know that there was a high school robotics league, you aren’t alone. But the 24 Como Park students who make up this year’s team are part of a rapidly growing activity that the MSHSL officially sanctions in the same way that it oversees soccer, basketball, track and dozens of other sports.

The “game” of robotics is to build a robot that can perform challenges in an elaborate, thematic setting that is the same for all competing teams. This year’s challenge was called “Stronghold.”

Trying to explain the technical details of Stronghold is no easy task. Robots must be built to maneuver around a field, lift and propel objects, and extend vertically.

There are fortresses, boulders, towers and alliances. The three-minute video shown to all competing teams in January may be worth a viewing for those who would like a visual. You can find it at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=VqOKzoHJDjA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VqOKzoHJDjA).

Ingenuity, creativity, cooperation and resourcefulness are essential to a successful experience in robotics. So is leadership. That comes from a variety of sources. The traditional title of “coach” is used interchangeably with “mentor” in the Como robotics world.

During an intensive six-week build season, Como teachers Donna Norberg and Mike Fischer serve as mentors to the BEASTBot students as they develop, build and refine their machine. Former Como principal Dan Mesick volunteers as a third official mentor.

The mentors plan, coordinate, advise and encourage the team during the build stage, but the real development and implementation of design strategies is all student-driven. Additionally, each team member takes leadership of a specific need area and specializes in a role to help



Members of the Como Robotics team and their robot “Sparky” at the 10,000 Lakes Regional Competition April 9. Como qualified for the state tournament, which was held May 21 at Mariucci Arena, just after the Bugle went to press. For results, check out the Como BEASTBot website, [www.beastbot2855.com](http://www.beastbot2855.com).

the complex activity become more manageable.

Task specialization is essential, but the team’s best work comes from collaboration, said senior and co-captain Evan Hulick. “Together we can have all those talents combine and different ideas and it turns out to be something amazing,” he said.

Junior and co-captain Marie Wulff plans to major in engineering in college. A varsity soccer player, Wulff said robotics is empowering for her teammates. “It has been a beacon of light in contributing to the self-confidence of many,” she said.

Como BEASTBot members and mentors are unified and proud of their effort this season, and when they left Williams Arena on April 9, they were satisfied with their performance in the Stronghold challenge.

They knew they had scored well and were going to place higher than previous years, but point totals are combined with other elements, so results aren’t immediately clear at the end of the competition.

“When we realized that we had gotten in [to state], students were elated and immediately started planning how to fix the robot for its final competitive appearance,”

Norberg said.

In addition to the mentors and co-captains, the full BEASTBot roster includes seniors Garret Yzaguirre, Chrys Sowards, Leo O’Ryan, Drew Seabold and Chris Ngo; juniors Theo Axtell-Adams, Andrew Cardoza, Ethan Helmer, Max Narvaez, Drake Sutta, Jack Swartz, Jade Waldemann and Hunter Waldemarsen; sophomores Dylan Brady, Lah Htoo, Vincent Portuese, Thomas Quinn and Aurelio Sandoval; and freshmen Ben Bogie, Hannah Lender and Peter Schik.

Sophomore Isaac Schneider won’t be at state with his teammates due to the devastating injuries he suffered when a bus struck him in a crosswalk on Thursday, May 5.

The BEASTBot team was shocked and saddened to learn of Schneider’s accident, as was the entire Como community. While Isaac suffered through surgeries in the hospital, his comrades were honoring him by keeping him connected and pursued their plan to stream the state tournament from Mariucci Arena to Isaac’s hospital bed so he could see it all unfold.

The Como Robotics team was already inspired. Faced with a new unanticipated challenge, the state tournament on May 21 was a challenge that took on an even higher level of meaning for the members of Como BEASTBot.

“State has already held a great meaning to our team,” Wulff said. “With Isaac it means more—him being our team spirit.”

*Eric Erickson is a social studies teacher at Como Park High School and a longtime coach of school and youth sports in St. Paul.*

## Como Senior’s track stars are preparing to set new records

As the track and field season approaches the City Conference and Section 4AA meets, four standout Como athletes have legitimate opportunities to win titles and achieve personal bests.

Senior Trey Clay is the defending state champion in the 110-meter hurdles and was also third in the 300-meter intermediate hurdles at state last season. Clay’s training has brought new records this season, including an all-time Mounds View track record at the Dick Stewart Memorial Meet.

In total, Clay earned four first-place finishes at the Mounds View meet, winning the long jump, triple jump and both hurdling events. That exceptional performance was backed up by winning the 110 hurdles at the

Hamline Elite meet and finishing second in the long jump. Clay will head into the St. Paul City meet as the favorite in all four of his events.

Coach Roy Magnuson said Clay may scale back to three events (both hurdles and the long jump) for the Section 4AA meet and the state meet, which will be held at Hamline University on June 10 and 11.

Innocent Murwanashyaka, a junior, has the goal of getting back to state for the second time this school year. Innocent finished eighth in the state cross-country meet last fall. In track he’s running the 3200-meter. He will battle a friendly rival from Highland Park for the city title in that event and try to qualify for state against a deep pool of talent in Section 4AA.

On the girls’ side, senior Mary Miles has achieved three years of city conference places and championships in the 1,600-meter and 3,200-meter. She has enjoyed her years of running cross-country and track’s distance events, and aims to finish her high school career back on the podium at the conference meet.

Junior Florence Uwajeneza will be one of the other top competitors in the girls’ distance events. Florence was the city champ in cross-country last fall. A peak performance at the city track meet could earn a place on the podium again.

Check next month’s Bugle for these track results and a summary of all Como and Murray spring sports.



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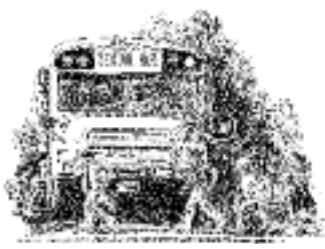
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## School News

*The Bugle welcomes news about students and schools in the area. Send your news to [editor@parkbugle.org](mailto:editor@parkbugle.org).*

### Como Park Senior High

740 Rose Ave., 651-293-8800  
[www.comosr.spps.org](http://www.comosr.spps.org)

#### Como student named Big Brother of the Year

Como junior Ethimon Lee was selected as the High School Big Brother of the Year by Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Greater Twin Cities. Over the past two years, Lee has devoted an hour each week to being an additional, caring person in the life of his "little brother" Nathan at Como Elementary School.

Ethimon helps Nathan with his homework and the pair enjoy playing games and building models together. Research shows that a mentor has a positive impact on academic performance, avoidance of risky behavior, better relationships with family and school attendance.

Como's Big Brother Big Sister program extends a huge thank you to the Saint Anthony Park Community Foundation for awarding grant money used to purchase materials for making fleece blankets. Como students then donated the blankets they made to local Children's Hospitals.

#### Drama and music news

The Como spring play, "30 Reasons Not to Be in a Play," was held April 28 and 29. Written by Alan Haehnel, Como's performers were directed by Allison Hartzell. The cast included Anna Anzaldo, Camryn Borrego, Alyssa Clark, Margaret Coyne, Grace Fick, Erianna Jiles, Madeline McPhee, Madison Moody, Nicolas Otte, Heather Rogers, Lillian Rogers, Minna Stillwell-Jardin and Norah Vitalli.

The Ordway Honors Concert was held on April 19, with top-performing students from across St. Paul joining forces for a fantastic night of music. Como choir students selected for the concert were Olivia Berven, Rebekah Blesi, Alyssa Clark, Margaret Coyne, Angel Khang, Emily LaCroix-Dalluhn, Kou Lee, Chimeng Jimmy Lor, Oo Meh, Nicolas Otte, Anthony Phelps, Justine Sanchez, Granda Sayavong, Adam Swanson, Patsy Thaiyeng, Divine Uchegbu, Sara Lee Yang and Yue Pheng Yang. The choir also held its Spring Farewell Concert at the school May 19. The audience got to hear some of the music the choir's touring students will sing in Carnegie Hall on May 28.

Como orchestra and band students who performed in the Ordway Honors Concert included Mariah Williams, Christian Berger, Vincent Portuese, Peter Schik, Martin-malik Williams, Theodore Lucy, Henry Hanson, Ellie Thorsgaard, Joe McCune-Zierath, Bridget Proper, Eva Hanson, Max Narvaez, Shyann Salverda, Chrys Sowards, Tuomas Sivula, Thomas Quinn, Noah Frese, Dominic



Como junior Ethimon Lee was named High School Big Brother of the Year in the Greater Twin Cities. Ethimon is pictured with his "little brother" from Como Elementary.

Wolters, Tyrin Anderson, Justin Rogers and Jackson Kerr.

In the most recent Minnesota State High School League competition, the Como Strings received a superior grade in the solo/ensemble category, and the Como Band received an award of excellence for large group ensemble.

**French students place at U contest**  
Como French students participated in the annual "A Vous La Parole" language contest at the University of Minnesota April 28. Students presented Francophone songs, readings, poems and theater skits at the event. Como students earned 47 medals at the event.

#### Help with all-night grad party

The Como class of 2016 all-night graduation party will be held Thursday, June 9. Hosted by the Como Park Booster Club, the group is looking for volunteers and community partners to help. This event provides Como's graduating seniors with a safe, fun environment to celebrate with friends. Donations or questions can be directed to [comoparkboosterclub@gmail.com](mailto:comoparkboosterclub@gmail.com).

### Murray Middle School

2200 Buford Ave., 651-293-8740  
[www.murray.spps.org](http://www.murray.spps.org)

#### Rock on

The Murray Rock Band will play its final show of the school year Thursday, June 2, at 6:30 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

#### Awards night June 6

The Murray Middle School eighth-grade awards night will be held Monday, June 6, at 6 p.m.

**Buy coffee and cookies at Sunrise Bank in June and support Murray**  
Stop by Sunrise Bank, at the corner Como and Doswell avenues, and participate in their Park Perks program by buying a cup of coffee

and a cookie. All proceeds from the June sales will go to Pilot One-on-One Tutoring Program.

#### History Day results

Twenty-seven Murray students participated in the Minnesota State History Day competition at the University of Minnesota on May 7. Sam Skinner, placed first with his website, "Discovering the Truth: State of Minnesota v. Phillip Morris, Inc." and will attend the national competition held in June in Washington, D.C.

The following students received honorable mentions at the station competition: Amelia Moseman for her performance, "The Orphan Train"; Nora Thomey for her performance, "The Invisible Ultra Bombe Machine"; Fiona Blank and Anna Gaudio for their performance, "Ruth Underhill and the Exploration of Native American Culture"; Bridget Lee, Claire Driscoll and Fiona Juarez-Sweeney for their performance, "The Little Rock Nine: Exploring and Encountering Through Integration"; and Kiersten Howatt and Lily Gordon for their website, "Hernan Cortez and the Conquest of the Aztecs."

Soren Sackreiter received fifth place for his website, "The Relocation of Hibbing."

#### Dialogue builds community

On April 21, the Murray community came together to share multiple perspectives of parents, community members, teachers and district leadership. Areas that the participants would like to address at Murray are (1) increase parent partnerships that reflect the diversity of the school and (2) increase access to physical education, health and recess.

Next the Educational Leadership Team, Parent Advisory Council and School Climate Improvement Team will review the input from the meeting and suggested action items and determine implementation plans. More

information will be provided to the community as to opportunities for involvement and continued input.

#### PTA helps student groups

As a result of generous donations from the PTA, Murray's Language Academy students visited the Science Museum in downtown St. Paul and students with disabilities received funding to learn transition, public transportation and community-independence skills.

### St. Anthony Park Elementary

2180 Knapp St., 651-293-8735  
[www.stanthony.spps.org](http://www.stanthony.spps.org)

#### Fifth-graders' work highlighted on Project Learning Tree e-newsletter

In March, the fifth-grade students in Tari Hella-Yelk's class participated in a multi-disciplinary pilot program

called "Forest Consequences" from the Project Learning Tree K-8 Curriculum Guide.

This series of middle-school lessons incorporates critical thinking, strategic team planning, technology, artistry and persuasive speaking skills. The students all did such a phenomenal job that National Project Learning Tree ([plt.org](http://plt.org)) highlighted their work in its e-newsletter (circulation of 25,000).

Kudos to all five teams of students for their powerful, creative and engaging presentations.

Interested in checking it out? Go to [www.plt.org](http://www.plt.org), click on EDUCATOR TIPS and then "Help Students Work Out a Land Issue with Forest Consequences" to view photos, student comments and even video vignettes of their projects and presentations.

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# Murray's New Lens group gifts school with new backboards

By Kristal Leebrick

Two shiny new state-of-the-art basketball court backboards hang in the gymnasium at Murray Middle School thanks to 11 young men from the New Lens Urban Mentoring Society.

The group of Murray eighth-graders, led by New Lens mentor Roosevelt Mansfield, earned a grant to cover the cost and installation of the backboards, which replaced two worn and dented boards that were more than two decades old. They were the same boards that one New Lens member's dad played on in the 1990s.

The old boards were an eyesore when basketball teams came from other schools to play at Murray, Mansfield said. The New Lens group chose to replace the backboards as a project "to show pride in their school."

"I'm so proud of these young men," Mansfield said to Murray's eighth-grade class at a ribbon-cutting ceremony May 6.

The New Lens members worked with Minneapolis organization YouthPrize to learn about grant writing and secure the grant. Murray principal Stacy Theien-Collins and the district helped them gather the data needed to complete the grant. It took a few rounds of submissions before they received the good news that they had won the grant.

New Lens is a Twin Cities organization that works with black males, starting in eighth-grade, and aims to help them succeed in school through postsecondary education and to help them make an impact on their community.



New Lens advisor Roosevelt Mansfield stands with Murray Middle School's eighth-grade members, from left: William Albert, Jaden Brathwaite, Ephraim Mau, Demarrieann Moore, Amari Carter, Drewjuan White, Ibsa Lolo, Ricardo Willis Jr. and Jalen James. The three on the right are members of the advisory board for YouthPrize and students at Twin Cities Academy, Prentiss Perkins, Robert Edmonds and Rashad Edmonds.  
Photo by Lori Hamilton

"We follow them through high school, college. We are there for support and guidance," Mansfield said, and fun. The program includes weekend activities, such as boxing and archery. "We go camping and fishing, and we have a lot of bonding. Once a month we go to dinner and a movie. The movie is always relevant to what's going on."

After each monthly movie, the group has a discussion time. "There's been a lot of violence going on lately," Mansfield said. His goal is to help the boys "be aware and appreciate what it means to live."

"People don't understand the circumstances some of these boys come from," he said. "My goal is instead of accomplishment for anyone, let pushing tests on these young men, we alone a group of middle-schoolers," want to push confidence. The tests just said Theien-Collins. "The school is keep repeating, 'You're behind, you're exceptionally proud of the work of behind, you're behind.' How will you Mr. Mansfield and the group. They be confident to succeed if you're always are just one more reason that Murray is the quality school it is."

# Murray student scientists dig in to new pollinator garden

Murray Middle School students broke ground on a pollinator garden on Earth Day, April 22. Led by their teacher, Tim Chase, students researched sites, flowers and soil types needed for the garden, proposed it to the administration and community members, and were awarded a grant for the supplies from the Monarch Lab at the University of Minnesota.

The students are members of

the Ecology Inquiry Immersion (e2) class, an elective taught by Chase, which aims to advance students' skills and develop a deep interest in science. With support from the MN Green Schools Coalition (a program of U.S. Green Building Council, MN), volunteers from USGBC, the St. Anthony Park neighborhood, St. Paul Public Schools (SPPS) facilities department and board of education, and the Monarch Lab were recruited to help the students dig in. Other resources—compost and its delivery, sod cutter rental and garden tools—were donated by the Mulch Store, SPPS, Sunbelt Rentals and the Green Building Council.

The garden project is a collaboration with six other SPPS programs spanning four gardens. Three schools in the city will host

pollinator gardens and the fourth is hosted at Belwin Outdoor Science Center in Afton, where the study was spearheaded. Students will use these gardens to study the effects of climate change using citizen science to understand the importance of native species to the life cycles and food chains of our ecosystems, the differences between urban and rural planting, and the ever-varying change of seasons. Final planting was completed on May 24.

The students in the e2 class use project-based learning to choose and develop solutions to real problems related to the environment and the school's neighborhood. Past projects include proposing a rain garden, choosing where to send the harvest from the school's vegetable gardens, biodiesel testing and solutions to reduce automobile emissions in the city.

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Jon Schumacher, chair of St. Paul Public Schools Board of Education, helps students cut and roll up sod to till the soil.



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