



Meet the candidates

Your 2017 voters guide

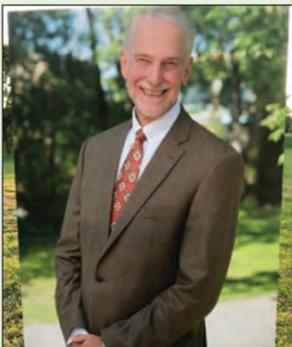
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The lost lake

Sarita wetland was once a lake.

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Business news

A new restaurant, a new store

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Your award-winning nonprofit community resource

Park Bugle

St. Anthony Park / Falcon Heights
Lauderdale / Como Park

www.parkbugle.org
November 2017

A colorful mural teaches a valuable lesson about a beloved lake:

What goes into this storm drain goes into the lake

By Kristal Leebrick

It must have been a sign.

When Gustavo Lira dipped his bucket into Lake Como on Oct. 14 to get water for the paintbrushes he was about to use, he pulled up a turtle—a delightful coincidence, as a turtle is the centerpiece to the mural Lira was about to begin near the storm drain in the parking lot on the east side of the lake.

“The First Storm Drain Mural in St. Paul” can be seen in the parking lot on the east side of the lake where Lakeview Avenue dead-ends into East Como Lake Drive. It’s aim: to bring attention to the drain’s presence and function in directing stormwater runoff—and any pollutants captured by the runoff—directly into the lake.

The project began when Kate Clayton, youth coordinator with



Mural to 12 Artist Gustavo Lira near completion of “The First Storm Drain Mural in St. Paul.” Photo by Mike Krivit



Students, staff, city and school district dignitaries, and Vikings celebrate the new home field at Como Park Senior High School. Photo by Mike Krivit

Como field is a dream come true

Como’s new turf field was dedicated on Oct. 18 at the end of the school day with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and a ceremonial presentation from the Vikings.

The student body and staff assembled on the new green surface while the marching band, JROTC cadets and student athletes from the fall sports teams marched around the track to kick off the event.

Remarks were delivered by Principal Theresa Neal, Assistant Superintendent Theresa Battle and SPPS Board of Education Chair Jon Schumacher. Comments by Brad Madson, Vikings executive director of community relations, and former

linebacker E. J. Henderson, who now serves as the Vikings’ youth football manager followed.

Then the ribbon was cut and the ceremonial big check was presented.

The \$250,000 contribution from the Vikings was awarded to Como following the successful pursuit of a grant through the NFL Foundation Grassroots Program. Como’s grant application received enthusiastic support from the community. Many partner organizations and civic leaders helped the cause by writing compelling letters that strengthened the case for the major facility upgrade.

The project is not completely finished, as additional bleachers, concessions area, a press box and speaker system are still needed. But the field itself is a striking, transformative change to the school grounds.

“Look how beautiful this space is and how well it represents who we

are,” said Principal Neal. “This is really about our community coming together to make something happen that we’re so well-deserving of.”

You can read more about Como’s first teams to use the new field on page 22.—Eric Erickson

Show your support

It’s that time of year: Please give to the Bugle fund drive and support your friendly neighborhood nonprofit newspaper. Learn more about the costs of publishing the Bugle on page 4.

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- 2120 Commonwealth Ave
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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. Here's how to connect: 651-644-3889, district10comopark.org or District 10 Community Council on Facebook.

Crime is up in Como (and down)

In the end, it all depends on how you look at it: Crime in Como through September 2017 is up slightly from a year ago. But overall crime is down from where it was two years ago, comparing the first nine months from 2015.

In 2017, drug busts are up. Confirmed cases of gunshots are up. Commercial burglaries are up.

But statistics also show auto thefts are way down, "crimes against persons" are flat, "crimes against property" are down, and "quality of life" calls are down. Of course, where you live in the neighborhood also makes a difference.

That's some of the analysis District 10 presented at a community crime meeting Oct. 10. More than 40 residents attended.

You can get more charts and details of crime patterns at www.district10comopark.org. Click on "Crime is Up (or Down)." Plus, you can download highlights of crime prevention tips shared by Patty Lammers, crime-prevention coordinator for the Western District of the St. Paul Police Dept.

Welcome, new board members

Congratulations to Joseph Mueller and Dunette Combs, who were elected to fill vacancies on the Como Community Council board. Both of them represent Sub-District 4, which covers South Como and Energy Park. Mueller's term expires in April 2018; Combs serves until April 2019.

... and committee members, too

The Como Community Council on Oct. 17 appointed 13 residents to a new Como Park "pathways work group." They are Tim Post (chair), Teri Alberico, Tom Beach, Andrew Gustin, Jess Landgraf, Don Magnuson, Jenne Nelson, Suzanne Rhees, Cody Zwiefelhofer, plus ex-officio members Richard Herriges, Jenny Larson, Michael Kuchta and Dan Marckel.

In addition, the board appointed Dana Hagemann to represent District 10 on the city's Como Dockside evaluation committee. Hagemann joins current D10 board member Maggie Zimmerman on the committee.

Want to help make Como Regional Park better?

It's not too late to get involved. District 10 welcomes additional community members who want to join the Como Park "pathways work group," which will make recommendations on how to make it easier to get around the park if you're not in a vehicle.

The group will assess signs,

paths, maps and more. District 10 is seeking members of different backgrounds who use the park in different ways: walkers, runners, cyclists, wheelchair users, behind strollers, etc.

Committee members will grade the quality, usefulness and consistency of current wayfinding tools and then suggest ideas to eliminate confusion and improve routing within the park, including to destinations on both sides of Lexington Avenue and outside of the zoo and conservatory campus.

Get more information and fill out an online application on District 10's website: district10comopark.org. Click "Keep the Park on the Right Path."

Upcoming District 10 meetings

Land Use Committee:
 Wednesday, Nov. 1

Neighborhood Relations and Safety Committee: Tuesday, Nov. 7

Como Community Council monthly meeting: Tuesday, Nov. 21

Environment Committee:
 Wednesday, Nov. 29

All meetings begin at 7 p.m. at the Historic Streetcar Station, which is at the northeast corner of Lexington Parkway and Horton Avenue. Community members are always welcome to attend and participate.

Whenever possible, agendas are posted in advance in the "Board News" section of District 10's website.

Falcon Heights

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

City commissions need volunteers

The city of Falcon Heights has openings on its four city commissions that serve the Falcon Heights City Council in an advisory capacity. The commissions are Planning, Parks and Recreation, Environment and Community Engagement. Each commission is composed of up to seven commissioners, a council liaison and a staff liaison.

Commissioners are volunteer residents, local business owners and business designees who are appointed by the mayor and approved by the city council. Commissioners serve a three-year term and are eligible for two terms.

Interested? You can apply online or submit an application to Falcon Heights City Hall. The city is looking to fill vacancies for January 2018 openings, but applications are accepted year-round.

For more information, visit www.falconheights.org under "City Government" and then "City Commissions."

You can also call 651-792-7600 or email mail@falconheights.org.

St. Anthony Park

The District 12 Community Council (SAPCC) meets on the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at Jennings Community Learning Center, 2455 University Ave. The council offices are located at 2395 University Ave., Suite 300 E. Contact information: 651-649-5992 or www.sapcc.org.

Meet the SAPCC candidates

Four candidates are seeking seats on the SAPCC Board of Directors. There are two seats open for North St. Anthony Park and three seats open for South St. Anthony. You can vote online at www.sapcc.org/vote through Monday, Nov. 6, or vote in-person at Wilder Mobile Market at Seal High-Rise, 825 Seal St., Wednesday, Nov. 1, 3-4 p.m., or Hampden Park Co-op, 928 Raymond Ave., Saturday, Nov. 4, 1-3 p.m. Additional dates, locations and times will be posted on the sapcc.org website.

Meet the candidates and read their candidate statements below:

North St. Anthony Park candidates

Michael Russelle has served one term on the board: "I have been active in civic affairs most of my adult life, including 35 years in St. Anthony Park. I offer time, energy, skills and ideas to the board.

"I would be happy to serve another term. I offer experience working collaboratively; reasonable creative, analytical and research skills; dedication for all to be heard; and decisions weighted toward the common good.

"My focus is to assist in guiding the community to mitigate climate change, build social equity, bonds, and networks, and improve infrastructure resilience. I am willing to take on extra work to get the things done that we want to do.

"Many say St. Anthony Park is a great place to live, but others feel isolated, unheard and unattached to the neighborhood. I am committed to ensuring our council better understands and reflects the diversity of our residents to build a stronger community."

Pat Thompson: "I've lived in St. Anthony Park for 24 years (three years in South and 21 years in North). I'm interested in community building and sustainability.

"I've been on the SAPCC Transportation Committee for four years, now as co-chair. My greatest skill is that I show up and do what I say I will do.

"I'm committed to working for a low-carbon St. Anthony Park, which is key to all of our futures. I plan to advocate annual participatory events by the committees that take place in different areas of the district each year."

South St. Anthony Park candidates

John Connell: "I want to serve because I'm passionate about finding solutions to community issues and helping to make St. Anthony Park a



Pastor Glen Berg-Moberg and a portion of his "A Cloud of Witnesses." Photo by Mike Krivit

Pastor's art is a meditation on 'those who have inspired us'

By Judy Woodward

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.—Hebrews 12:1 KJV

When Glenn Berg-Moberg was a boy growing up half a century ago on the Iron Range, he had a blue-collar kid's fascination with the physicality of how things worked. He studied metalworking and welding in a well-equipped technical-arts program in high school and he enjoyed working with his hands, translating the abstract into the concrete.

"Every thought has a picture that goes with it," says Berg-Moberg, and some of those thoughts could be expressed in metal.

And then he grew up, became part of the first generation in his family to attend college, and moved on to a life devoted to study, preaching, counseling and writing. Since 2001, he has been pastor of St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, where his waking hours revolve around words, and his boyhood fascination with the tactile was left behind.

Until last summer, that is, when a three-month sabbatical gave him the opportunity to unite his early hands-on approach to life with his mature reverence for the Word. Over the summer, Berg-Moberg designed and constructed a room-size metal sculpture installation that he calls "A Cloud of Witnesses." The viewer enters a white, cloud-like space where he or she is surrounded by stylized steel figures and a curtain of sound that arises from 60 or 70 pre-recorded readings of the Bible verse Hebrews 12:1, from which he took the title of his work. Members of the congregation recorded the verse in several versions of the Bible and in languages that included English, Japanese, German, Spanish and Zulu.

"I think of it less as an art installation than a meditation," Berg-Moberg says. "'Cloud of Witnesses' is a reference to a long list of inspiring Biblical figures, but I am asking

people to think about when they have known a person in their own lives who has ... convinced [them] of their value," he explains. The lighting is key. Each statue casts multiple shadows [that represent] the good mark of a person" who has had a positive influence on the viewer.

The idea for his work literally came to him in a dream, Berg-Moberg says. Ten years ago, he dreamt of the cloud imagery that is at the heart of his project.

"But the dream didn't have the sculptures," he says. Those had to wait until his wife enrolled him in a metal-sculpturing class, offered by the now-defunct Vesper College in the Casket Arts Building in Northeast Minneapolis. Although he had never thought of himself as an artist, since his seminary days he had been doodling what he calls "profile things" — geometrical shapes that he had imagined rendering in metal.

"The medium of the class was this steel rod that I use in the project," Berg-Moberg says, but it would be another several years until a sabbatical allowed him the time to develop his vision. His last sabbatical in 2011 had been spent in much more conventional study in Greece and Turkey, "but I decided not to do study this time," he reports drily.

Instead he turned to a bench vise and grip that allowed him to spend his summer days bending 1/8-inch and 3/16-inch steel rod by hand into the attenuated figures that people "A Cloud of Witnesses." His favorite of the 10 or 11 creations is the "Girl with a Ponytail," which represents the "serendipity of artist and material" that can lead to "happy accidents" of creativity, he says.

"I had been puzzling how to complete it," he says of the stylized rendering of a young woman's profile, when a piece of wire of a different diameter from another project accidentally "dropped onto [the figure] and created her hairline."

The biggest difference between making art and performing his regular work as a minister was, "I was running my brain through a different filter," Berg-Moberg says. "I wasn't working with sentences or grammar, but I was finding a different way to

communicate."

When asked where he locates his work in the tradition of sacred art, Berg-Moberg chooses his words carefully in reply: "It is consistent with the liturgical arts tradition ... but church artists have to resist temptation to repeat methods of the past."

Rather than talk about his work in terms of art, he prefers to use the phrase, "A modern tabernacle."

"I'm playing with the images of a cloud, but also playing with [the idea of] a portable worship space" in the Biblical sense of the Book of Exodus, he says. "Liturgical art always seeks to create a sense of space

Witnesses to 20

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Planning does make perfect

Here are things you might like to know about Saint Anthony Park

- ❖ January to October, 2017 the average asking price was \$399,929.00
- ❖ For the same period the average sale price was \$368,974.00
- ❖ Day on market averaged 42 Days
- ❖ September, 2017 the average sale price was \$404,500.00
- ❖ September average days on market were 49

Barbara Swadburg
651-271-8919
barb@lyndenrealty.com

Meet the Mayoral Candidates!

The Saint Anthony Park Community Foundation as part of its annual public meeting is hosting a mayoral candidate forum

Thursday, November 2, 7-8:30 p.m.
Murray Middle School 2200 Buford Ave.

Each candidate will have a chance to answer pre-selected questions and explain why they should be your choice for the next mayor of St. Paul

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Park Bugle

P.O. Box 8126
St. Paul, MN 55108
www.parkbugle.org
651-646-5369

Managing Editor

Kristal Leebrick
651-646-5369
editor@parkbugle.org

Production Manager

Stephen D. Parker
612-839-8397

Obituaries Editor

Mary Mergenthal
651-644-1650
mary.mergenthal@gmail.com

Delivery problems?

editor@parkbugle.org
651-646-5369

Subscriptions & billing

Fariba Sanikhatam
651-239-0321
fariba@parkbugle.org
Subscriptions are \$30 for one year.
Send payment to P.O. Box 8126,
St. Paul, MN 55108

Event submissions

calendar@parkbugle.org

Copyeditor

Ruth Weleczi

Proofreaders

Christine Elsing
Mary Mergenthal

Display advertising

Clare Caffrey
651-270-5988
clare.caffrey@parkbugle.org

Bradley Max Wolfe

952-393-6814
bradley.wolfe@parkbugle.org

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The Park Bugle is a monthly 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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Currently serving on the board are Ted Blank, Betsy Currie, Elizabeth Danielson, Michael Griffin, Gabrielle Lawrence, Beth Maddock Magistad, Joey McGarvey, Beth Mercer-Taylor, Bob Milligan, Merry Rendahl, Steve Plagens, Matt Vierling and Kathy Wellington.



EDITORIAL

Please support this community gem

November is a month of Thanksgiving, and the staff and board of directors at the Park Bugle thank our advertisers and readers for their support throughout the year. November also marks the start of the Bugle's 2017-2018 fund drive.

For 43 years, the Bugle has been an integral part of our community. We write this month to ask for your support to help the Bugle continue to thrive. As a small, nonprofit community newspaper, the Bugle is an award-winning, community gem.

Though the Bugle is delivered free each month to 14,500 homes and businesses, it isn't "free." Contributions from readers are an important part of producing, publishing and delivering the newspaper, as well as maintaining and improving our website. It costs more than \$13,000 to produce every issue. Thirty percent goes to printing and distribution, 5 percent goes to administrative costs, and the remaining percentage pays salaries and stipends

to the staff, writers, and photographers. Advertising covers only 70 percent of the Bugle's operating costs.

Our goal this year is to raise \$42,000. Please join us in supporting this wonderful community resource. You can donate in a variety of ways: Use the return envelope included in this issue of the newspaper, you can visit our website at www.parkbugle.org and click on the "Donate Now" button on the right-hand side of the page, or you can mail a check to the Park Bugle, P.O. Box 8126, St. Paul, MN 55108. The Bugle is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and your donation is fully tax-deductible.

We thank you for past donations and ask that you consider increasing your gift this year. Together with your support, we are confident that the Bugle will continue to be your neighbor for many years to come.

—Merry Rendahl, Park Press fund drive chair

LETTERS

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.

Falcon Heights voters and candidates weigh in

Readers support candidates

In over 30 years of public life in Falcon Heights, including 12 years as a council member and mayor, I have rarely, if ever, seen a candidate for council whose leadership skills and long-term commitment to our city and its residents have already touched so many lives in such positive ways as has Paula Mielke's.

If you've taken advantage of our highly regarded parks and recreation programs, you've benefited from Paula's time determining policy, programming and activities while serving on our Parks and Recreation Commission.

If you've participated in Falcon Heights Elementary School's public events, such as the school carnival or opening day parade, you've enjoyed Paula's work. All Falcon Heights students continue to benefit from funds raised through the annual Read-A-Thon, originated by Paula.

The nationally recognized Ramsey County Library, so important to large numbers of our city's residents, gained from Paula's time on the Ramsey County Library Board, two years as chair.

After the tragic shooting of Philando Castile, as many of us hoped for ways our city could show compassion for the victims while struggling to move forward, it was Paula who organized the group now known as Falcon Heights: We Can Do Better, and organized its multifaceted response. Motivating residents and forging alliances with numerous other groups, Paula's leadership brought about public gatherings to explore evolving concepts in policing, recognizing and confronting unconscious bias in daily life and other important topics.

It was Paula's action-centered, future-oriented leadership that led to a petition asking the city council for a task force to articulate a set of value-

based actions that will, for years to come, guide and demonstrate the sincerity of our city's efforts at positive, practical change.

Paula Mielke's demonstrated, tangible commitment to our city's residents, outstanding organizational and motivational skills, and the boundless energy she has shown following through on her ideas make her stand out among this typically fine slate of candidates for our city council. Please join me in accepting Paula's offer to to work for all of us by voting Paula Mielke on Nov. 7.

Tom Baldwin,
former mayor of Falcon Heights

We are in a season in our country dominated by heart-rending stories of violence and loss. At the same time, we are witnessing partisan rancor more extreme than I have seen in my considerable decades of life.

For that reason, I am delighted that Melanie Leehy is a candidate for city council in Falcon Heights.

I have known Melanie as a neighbor and friend, but I have also had the opportunity to collaborate with her on initiatives to serve the broader civic community.

In thinking about the best leadership for the city council at this time, anyone who knows Melanie would attest to her immeasurable energy and commitment. But what seals the deal in my eyes is that Melanie brings great vision and acumen to conversations that respect diverse views and elicit positive action based on values and concerns that are not defined by political affiliation.

Tragedy that unfolded in our streets has made the modest city of Falcon Heights known throughout the country. With leadership like

Melanie's, the city of Falcon Heights can be seen for what is most authentic about it: a community of good-hearted people seeking equity and well-being that reflect the aspirations of the uniquely American experiment among the nations of the world. I heartily endorse her election.

Judy Connolly,
Falcon Heights

On Nov. 7, we have the chance to fill two seats on the Falcon Heights City Council. Having worked with and been inspired by Paula Mielke, we know she will work actively and effectively for positive change in our community.

Paula is a small-business owner with experience in customer service and balancing budgets. A resident of Falcon Heights since 1990, she has consistently contributed to the community: representing the city on the Ramsey County Library Board and serving on our Parks and Recreation Commission. After 9/11 she was a neighborhood liaison promoting the intergenerational dialogue toolkit developed under then Mayor Sue Gehrz. Paula was also president of the Falcon Heights Elementary School PTA when her two sons were students there, and she started their fundraising read-a-thon that continues to this day.

Paula's compassion and activism blossomed forth again last year. Many community members, shocked by the shooting of Philando Castile, began attending Falcon Heights City Council meetings to express their concern and ask for action. Paula had already reached out to city staff and officials to offer her assistance, and now she invited us, her neighbors around the city, into her home and inspired us to brainstorm grassroots actions. With

Paula, we made proposals to the city, such as calling for a citizen task force on policing. She also helped us reach out to the broader community through forums on race and social justice. She listens and then leads by networking and empowering others to generate and act upon creative ideas.

We need leaders who truly listen to residents and their concerns, who step up in times of crisis, who have the vision to work for a better future for all of us. On Nov. 7, we urge you to vote Paula.

Sarah Chambers, Peter Demerath,
Melissa Harl, Beth Mercer-Taylor and
Rebecca Montgomery, Falcon Heights
and Joyce Lyon, St. Paul

We are writing to strongly endorse Melanie Leehy as our next Falcon Heights City Council member.

Melanie has served our city for several years in a number of capacities, most notably as the chair of the Community Engagement Committee and co-chair of the recent Inclusion and Policing Task Force. Throughout her years of service, Melanie has demonstrated substantial energy, effort and commitment to sustaining the high quality of life for which Falcon Heights is known.

She is an effective listener and problem-solver and will be committed to addressing and resolving issues in a manner that considers multiple viewpoints and builds consensus among neighbors. Most important, Melanie brings significant optimism and integrity to all that she undertakes. She will continue to do this in her role as city council member.

We know the challenges required to be an effective city council member and are confident

Letters to 5

Transition Town – All St. Anthony Park

This is one in a series of occasional columns from Transition Town—All St. Anthony Park, the neighborhood-based group working for a local response to climate change: a smaller carbon footprint and a stronger community. You can find out more about Transition Town at www.TransitionASAP.org

How can we keep our investments close to home?

By Sherman Eagles

Even though I recycle and compost, drive less and eat local, it is quite likely my retirement investments are helping companies that counteract my efforts. Despite trying to keep my investments out of coal, oil and pipelines, the multinational corporations that are part of my portfolio may be involved in questionable activities that I know nothing about. Even when investing in socially responsible funds, my money still goes out of our community instead of staying here.

Transition Town—All St. Anthony Park (TT-ASAP) is forming a group to discuss ways to keep our investments in the Twin Cities, and even more closely, in St. Anthony Park—building a stronger community with a smaller carbon footprint while making a return on our investments that is “enough.”

If you are interested in exploring possibilities, join us on Monday, Nov. 13, at 7 p.m. at Lori’s Coffee House, 1441 N. Cleveland Ave.

Some areas we will be investigating:

- How can individuals and couples roll over money in their existing tax-restricted retirement accounts to allow for investments closer to home?

- Can we band together to create a cooperative real estate investment group, similar to the one in Northeast Minneapolis?

- Does anyone want to form an investment club or a chapter of Cooperative Principle, in which people invest a relatively small amount of money each month into a group fund that will be invested locally?

- Can we form a local, nonprofit Community Investment Fund that can borrow money from patient investors and loan it to local businesses and organizations?

- What other ways can we think of to divest from damaging national corporations and invest in local small businesses?

We are inspired to start this work by efforts in Totnes, England, the home of the international Transition Town movement. In Totnes, a group called the REconomy Project has been connecting local investors with locally owned businesses since 2011. Totnes has a population of about 8,500, roughly the same size as St. Anthony Park, and has raised more than \$110,000 of investment. The 170 local citizens involved so far have funded 27 local enterprises that contribute to the area’s economy and fulfill social and environmental aims.

What works in one town or neighborhood may not be the right approach in another. It will be necessary to look closely at what others have done and think about how that might apply to St. Anthony Park.

So far, we have the most information on the idea of creating a real estate investment co-op, given the success of the Northeast Investment Co-op (NEIC). The

NEIC is the country’s first commercial-property investment cooperative, with one building bought and renovated and a second in the middle of purchase. Minnesota’s co-op laws create an opportunity, and St. Anthony Park seems like an area that could benefit from community ownership of commercial or residential buildings. Let’s figure out how to do it!

Forming a local Cooperative Principle group is another possibility that is clearly defined already, and which we could replicate. CP groups generally have 10 to 20 members who meet to decide how to invest the money they put in each month. The groups combine a social gathering with investing, primarily in co-ops that sell dividend-paying stock or are looking for member loans in order to expand their businesses.

There is a lot to figure out; we are just beginning this work.

If you wish you could make your money walk your talk, join us Nov. 13 as we start this new way of

bringing our money back to the neighborhood and the city for sustainable investments.

Sherman Eagles has lived in St. Anthony Park for 45 years and is part of the TT-ASAP planning group. Contact him for more information at seagles@sofiwarecpr.com.

Local Economy group meeting

Monday, Nov. 13, 7 p.m.
Lori’s Coffee House, 1441 N. Cleveland Ave.

More information

Cooperative Principle:
thecp.coop
The NEIC: www.neic.coop
Totnes REconomy Project:
reconomycentre.org
Transition Town—ASAP:
transitionasap.org

Deadlines, publishing dates and where to find a Bugle

Want to submit something to the Bugle?

Here are the deadlines and publication dates for the next three months:

December issue: The deadline is Wednesday, Nov. 8, and it will hit the streets Tuesday, Nov. 21.

January issue: The deadline is Wednesday, Dec. 6, and it will hit the streets Tuesday, Dec. 19.

February issue: The deadline is Wednesday, Jan. 17, and it will hit the streets Tuesday, Jan. 30.

Got a story idea?

Give us a holler: editor@parkbugle.org or 651-646-5369. We take traditional mail, too: Park Bugle, P.O. Box 8126, St. Paul, MN 55108.

Missing your Bugle?

If your house was missed during our delivery week, we apologize. Here are some spots where you can pick up a Bugle:

- District 10 Como Community Council office, 1224 N. Lexington Parkway
- Dogwood Coffee Bar, 825 Carleton St.
- Finnish Bistro, 2264 Como Ave.
- Hampden Park Co-op, 928 Raymond Ave.
- Falcon Heights City Hall, 2077 Larpenteur Ave.
- Lauderdale City Hall, 1891 Walnut St.
- Little Wine Shoppe, 2236 Carter Ave.
- Roseville Library, 2180 Hamline Ave.
- Schneider Drug, 3400 University Ave., Minneapolis
- Speedy Market, 2310 Como Ave.
- St. Anthony Park Library, 2245 Como Ave.
- Urban Growler, 2325 Endicott St.
- Workhorse Coffee Bar, 2399 University Ave.

Or go to www.parkbugle.org/delivery/ for a more complete list of places that carry the Bugle. You can also read the Bugle online at www.parkbugle.org.

Letters from 4

that Melanie will do an outstanding job in this capacity. Please join us in voting for Melanie Leehy for Falcon Heights City Council on Nov. 7.

*Rick and Jan Gibson Talbot,
former Falcon Heights
City Council members*

I write in support of Melanie Leehy for city council in Falcon Heights. I had the privilege and honor of serving with Melanie during one of the city’s most trying times—the death of Philando Castille. Her character and leadership during this time exemplified a civic servant who cares deeply about her city.

Melanie’s strength and thoughtful leadership represents the best of Falcon Heights. She functions as an honest broker by honoring whomever she encounters, regardless of background or social status, for the benefit of every resident of the city.

Falcon Heights would do well to elect a tireless, compassionate and fearless leader who places the welfare of the city and others above her own. She is a living example of the principle of *non sibi*: We exist not for ourselves but for the benefit of others.

*Ken Morris,
founder and CEO of KnectIQ Inc.
Woodbury, Minn.*

Falcon Heights voters will fill two open seats on the City Council on Tuesday, Nov. 7. This is an opportunity to add fresh perspectives

and new leadership to the council’s work. Candidate Paula Mielke has demonstrated a passion for finding effective ways to help our community move forward in the wake of Philando Castille’s death to become a more just, proactive and inclusive home for our diverse population.

Paula founded and has led the group, Falcon Heights We Can Do Better, through which participants have studied issues of policing and housing and encouraged city leaders to take action. Members have actively supported the Community Conversations and resulting report of the Task Force on Policing and Inclusion commissioned by the city council. Paula listens, finds areas of common interest, remains positive and empowers people to use their talents in service to the city. Her own service began nearly two decades ago as a Falcon Heights Elementary School PTA member and president and continued as member and chair of the Parks and Recreation Commission. Now she is in her eighth year as Falcon Heights representative on the Ramsey County Library Board, which she also chaired.

Paula is committed to continue the work begun by the task force, improve communication between residents and government, and find new ways to increase citizen involvement. She deserves your vote Nov. 7.

*Nancy Peterson
Falcon Heights*

Candidates speak out

Editor’s note: You can learn more about the Falcon Heights City Council candidates in the election guide on pages 8-9.

As a 12-year resident, I have been serving Falcon Heights consistently for 11 years. My roles have been city office assistant, Neighborhood Commission chair, Community Engagement Commission chair and Falcon Heights Task Force for Community Policing and Inclusion co-chair. As a resident and city leader, I have brought forth many positive impacts to our city, from bridge building for unity with residents, activists and city officials, racial equity and inclusion recommendations, free electronics recycling events, initiating citywide gatherings and even Little Free Libraries.

As I stated after the tragic death of Philando Castille, “We have the ability to get this right.” We are on that path. I am committed to seeing our inclusion recommendations fully implemented.

I come to you with 36 years of experience in community service, including in nonprofit, education and corporate sectors. My ability to genuinely listen, bring unity with diverse groups, initiate creative ideas and solutions, and understand various aspects of government are some of the strengths I carry in healthy servant leadership.



Election 2017

Meet the candidates

On Tuesday, Nov. 7, St. Paul voters will head to the polls to elect a new mayor and to fill three seats on the St. Paul Public Schools Board of Education. Falcon Heights residents will elect two new city council members. Lauderdale and Falcon Heights residents will cast their ballots for three people to fill vacant slots on the Roseville Area Schools Board of Education and to vote yes or no on a school referendum.

We reached out to the candidates and you can read their responses here.

To find out where to vote, how to register to vote or to see a sample ballot for your area, go to the Minnesota secretary of state's website, mnvotesinfo.sos.state.mn.us or call 651-296-2803 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

St. Paul mayor

Voters in the city of St. Paul will choose a new mayor on Nov. 7, as incumbent Chris Coleman is not running for a fourth term. With ranked choice voting in the mayoral election, voters have the option to rank candidates in order of their preference, up to a maximum of six. Voters are not required to rank more than one candidate and can vote for just one candidate.

We asked each candidate for their biographical information, a statement explaining why they want to be mayor, and what they would do about widespread concerns over rising property taxes in the wake of a recent court order to change the structure of the city's assessments.—Anne Holzman

Sharon Anderson did not respond to our request for information. This is Anderson's fourth time running for mayor of St. Paul. Websites from previous races for attorney general and St. Paul City Council indicate past affiliation with the Republican Party.

Melvin Carter served on St. Paul City Council from 2008 to 2013, when he stepped down to accept a position with the state of Minnesota.



Melvin Carter

Most recently, he has served as executive director of the Minnesota Children's Cabinet under Gov. Mark Dayton. Carter lives in the Rondo neighborhood with his wife, Sakeena, and three of their five children.

During his years on the city council, Carter said he worked on adding light-rail stops in neighborhoods; founded the St. Paul Promise Neighborhood to level the

playing field for low-income families; and formed the city's Department of Human Rights & Equal Economic Opportunity.

"I believe that St. Paul's future depends on recognizing the untapped potential in all our kids, families and communities," Carter said. "As mayor, I will focus on building a St. Paul that works for everyone, not just those we're used to seeing succeed."

Concerning property taxes, Carter said, "The best way to alleviate pressure on residents is to strengthen the city's tax base overall. As St. Paul grows, the demand for more jobs, housing and city services will also grow. Fulfilling this demand requires a big vision for economic growth; without right-sizing the tax base to match demand, St. Paul will remain trapped in a cycle of raising taxes or cutting city services."

Carter said he supports the proposed plan for the site of the former Ford Assembly Plant as part of that vision.

He would also ask large tax-exempt organizations to help pay for city services through voluntary contributions.

Carter said he is committed to "eliminating disparities" in the city. "Neighborhoods with quality public infrastructure, stable housing and employment opportunities are also those who contribute most in taxes," he said. "Addressing disparities will help those that have been left behind by our city's progress, but it will also benefit the whole city by expanding prosperity and adding the tax contributions that result to the city's budget."

Trahern Crews did not respond to our request for information. According to his blog, Crews is a 1993 graduate of Central High School and has run unsuccessfully for

the Ward 1 seat on St. Paul City Council.

Elizabeth A. Dickinson said her goal as mayor would be "to mobilize St. Paul's underappreciated cultural, natural, educational, medical, business and people-powered assets." Her experience in those areas includes work with health and education policy groups. She has served on the West Side Community Organization District Council.



Elizabeth A. Dickinson

Dickinson studied education at Cambridge University in England and holds a master's degree in psychology from Lesley University in Massachusetts. She is endorsed by the Green Party, womenwinning, the Sierra Club and Clean Water Action.

"I want to be your mayor because this is the most meaningful contribution I could make to a city and people I love," Dickinson said. She lists her "core values" as "social, economic and environmental justice; grassroots democracy; and non-violence."

"As your mayor," Dickinson said, "I will be a partnership-builder and connector inside and outside of city hall, communicating, convening, collaborating and connecting people to resources they need and increasing public input to address shared challenges."

Dickinson would approach taxes starting with "a deep dive" into department budgets to find out what's working, what isn't and what complaints managers have noted, she said, and would examine methods used to track short- vs. long-term impacts of spending in each area.

"From there I would share my city priorities based on my campaign promises," Dickinson said. "I would consult with city and community councils and construct a budget to reflect the city's values, including the need to hold the line on taxes, especially for those on fixed incomes."

Currently working as a life coach through Pursue Your Path, Dickinson is also a landlord, writer and public speaker.

Tom Goldstein has worked as a community activist, affordable-housing advocate, job-placement coordinator, legislative aide, citizen lobbyist, and labor organizer. He served on the St. Paul Public Schools Board of Education from 2005 to 2008.



Tom Goldstein

Goldstein grew up outside Washington, D.C., moved to Minnesota to attend Carleton College, and now lives in the Hamline/Midway neighborhood. He earned a law degree from the evening program at William Mitchell College of Law.

Recently visible in campaigns opposing the financing of a sports stadium, Goldstein is the founder and former owner of the Sports Collection on Grand Avenue.

"I know firsthand the many challenges entrepreneurs face in trying to build a successful business, what it means to live within a budget, how to treat employees fairly yet still hold them accountable, and why helpful customer service that solves everyday problems in people's lives is as crucial to the success of cities as it is to businesses," he said.

Goldstein would approach taxes by ordering an independent audit and looking for savings opportunities. "I would end subsidies for entertainment venues and stadiums, sharply curtail the use of tax-increment financing absent a specific project addressing a community need, and only raise taxes as a last resort to avoid a fiscal crisis," he said.

"I would also insist that we get serious about job creation," Goldstein said, listing alternative energy and broadband as two areas ripe for development.

"I am unafraid to say no to corporate handouts," Goldstein said, "advocating instead for the priorities of neighborhoods: safe streets, well-maintained parks and rec centers, free after-school programming throughout the city; housing policies that protect us from predatory developers; and opportunities for everyone to succeed."

Goldstein currently works as a lawyer and runs an online business.

Pat Harris has served on the St. Paul City Council (2000-2011) and on a variety of committees, including library, zoo and museum boards. He is the founder of Serving Our Troops, supporting members of the Minnesota National Guard and works as a senior vice president at BMO Harris Bank.



Pat Harris

"On the council," Harris said, "I earned a reputation for getting things done, for being the council's leading expert on finance, and for my focus on providing quality city services. I was the council's leader on a wide array of issues, including public safety, libraries, and city infrastructure."

Harris said he is running for mayor "because I believe St. Paul is a place where people can achieve their dreams. In my lifetime of working with our citizens and getting things done, I have learned so much about what is great about St. Paul and what our neighbors cherish and want in their St. Paul."

"St. Paul's finances are under stress for numerous reasons, including lack of stability in local government aid, the recent court ruling shifting certain fees to property taxes, and the general pressure of rising costs," he said. "I believe the city's financial health is at risk and needs attention from an experienced financial leader in order to keep the city moving in the right direction." Harris offers "nearly two decades of experience as a public finance professional in the private sector."

Harris would examine current city expenses to eliminate inefficiencies and focus on core services, he said.

"I will work vigorously to expand the tax base by promoting responsible development and growing our job base citywide. Finally, I would aggressively work to market our city to employers within Minnesota and across the nation. The mayor has a unique role as a salesman for the city."

Harris is a lifelong resident of St. Paul. He and his wife, Laura, live in

Mayoral candidates at Murray Nov. 2

You have one more chance to hear from St. Paul's mayoral candidates at the Saint Anthony Park Community Foundation's annual meeting Thursday, Nov. 2, 7-8:30 p.m., at Murray Middle School. At least seven of the 10 candidates who will be on the Nov. 7 ballot will be there, said Jon Schumacher, foundation executive director. Murray is located at 2200 Buford Ave. in St. Anthony Park.

★ Election 2017

St. Paul Mayor from 6

the Highland Park neighborhood with their four young children.

Chris Holbrook has lived in St. Paul for 18 years, in the Midway and Frogtown neighborhoods. He is the current chair of the Libertarian Party of Minnesota and ran for governor as a Libertarian in 2014. He works in building materials wholesale, managing accounts and sales.



Chris Holbrook

Holbrook said he is running for mayor “to lower property tax[es].”

Holbrook stated that as mayor, “I would create an equitable focus on

all diverse communities in the city. I would spread out the tax base to include the 25 percent of properties that enjoy exemption. I would place a moratorium on banning things—like menthols—and mandating things—like \$15 labor. I would supervise city managers to prevent the millions over budget that all major city projects overspend.”

Tim Holden did not respond to our request for information. According to his campaign website, he is a graduate of St. Thomas Academy and St. Cloud State University, with a degree in criminal justice. He works as a general contractor and real estate agent. Holden ran unsuccessfully for mayor in 2013.

Dai Thao has served on the St. Paul City Council since 2013. He is a board member of the Port Authority, Twin Cities Community Land Bank

and Family Housing Fund.

“I’m an information-technology professional by trade and a community organizer by passion,” Thao said.

Born in Laos, Thao said he has “seen what a bad government can do to its people,” adding, “I firmly believe government’s role is to serve the people.”

As mayor, “I will unite the city across race, faith, gender and neighborhoods to fight for racial justice, and economic progress,” he said. His experience with informational technology will help him find solutions “so that regular people and businesses don’t get taxed out of St. Paul.”



Dai Thao

“We cannot balance the budget on the backs of our middle-class and low-income residents,” Thao said. “I do not believe in cutting back on the necessary and impactful services that the city provides, either. So instead of punishing the working class or cutting services, we need to find creative ways to diversify the city’s revenue streams.”

Thao noted that “nearly one-third” of St. Paul land is exempt from property taxes. “We have for too long shifted the burden onto the residents,” he said. “This is why I co-sponsored the Payment-in-Lieu-of-Taxes (PILOT) study with the Citizens League for private universities and nonprofits that can afford to help support city services and programming.”

As mayor, he would “promote a culture of accountability and efficiency by doing a data analysis of city departments to find

bottlenecks,” and by making the data public, he said.

“Other revenue sources I will pursue are the half-cent sales tax to dedicate toward maintaining our local parks and recreation centers, a soda tax at the distribution level to fund youth services and all-day-pre-kindergarten, and a wheelage tax to maintain our local street and maintenance services,” Thao said.

Barnabas Joshua Yshua did not respond to our request for information. According to an Aug. 4 article in the Pioneer Press, he lives at Union Gospel Mission, a men’s shelter on University Avenue, and told the Pioneer Press reporter that he had no political platform other than helping others.

St. Paul Public Schools Board of Education, District 625

Voters in St. Paul will elect three members for the St. Paul school district’s seven-member board. The term of office is four years. Two incumbents, John Brodrick and Jeannie Foster, are running for re-election. At least one newcomer will join the board, as current member Chue Vue is not seeking re-election. All St. Paul school board members are elected at-large by voters in the entire district. The top three vote-getters will serve on the board.

We asked each candidate why they want to serve on the St. Paul school board, and what they might do to address declining enrollment in the district. In view of recent discussions in St. Paul and neighboring districts, we also asked for their thoughts about school start times.—Anne Holzman

Luke Belville is an attorney who has lived in the West Seventh area of St. Paul since 2013. He ran unsuccessfully for a judicial seat in 2016. He noted that he has teaching experience in Japan and Korea.

Belville wishes to serve on the school board as “a means to use my education in the public sector, while allowing me to try and help make the world a better place,” he said.

“That is not to say that I alone would be able to make the school system the best it can be, but I would be able to try with the help of other public officials and the community.”

Belville said he needs more information to understand the problem of declining enrollment. “We must first understand if the drop in enrollment is due to societal changes or is because of the school system,” Belville said. “If the shift is due to societal changes, these changes would need to be studied and accounted for accordingly.”

Belville has concerns about changes in start times and how they would affect families.

“I think the changes proposed should consider first that in the modern world both parents work,” Belville said, “and their children should be on the bus at an early enough time so that the parents are not having to wait around for the school bus to show up so their kids can get on it, and they can go to work.”

John Brodrick has served on the St. Paul school board since 2002 and is running for his fifth term. “I have spent a lifetime in the St. Paul schools,” Brodrick said, “as a student, teacher, coach, parent and currently as a school board member.”



John Brodrick

Brodrick noted that the board members elected in 2015 were new to the office, and that at least one new member will be elected this time around. In addition, Superintendent Joe Gothard is in his first year in that job. “My experience on the board, in the classroom, and in our neighborhoods and communities will be a definite plus for the board and the district,” Brodrick said.

Going forward, “The district under new leadership and a new strategic plan must send clear messages,” he said. “It needs to assure parents that every school is a welcoming and safe learning environment for all. Student achievement is at the heart of

this. Our building and maintenance of facilities must continue, and every school must have strong offerings in arts, music, physical education and extracurricular activities.”

Brodrick has been party to past discussions about school start times. “For economic reasons, we have been tied for decades to a three-tier bus and start-time schedule,” Brodrick explained. “This has forced us to choose between groups of students. The current proposal allows the superintendent to have another year to align any different school start-time schedule with the new strategic plan. Ultimately, I want all of our students to start school at a reasonable time.”

Greg Copeland is making his fourth run for a seat on the school board. He has served as city manager for Maplewood and has run unsuccessfully as a Republican candidate for the Minnesota Senate. His public service includes terms on the St. Paul City Charter Commission and the city’s capital budget committee.



Greg Copeland

Copeland said he is “the only candidate running who is not an educator or a lawyer. Citizens want a diversity of skills and need broader experience beyond the courtrooms and classrooms, better known for talkers than listeners.”

If elected, he would refocus the budget away from central administration and onto individual schools. “The school that parents

choose is where education dollars must be spent,” Copeland said, “because that is where students are learning, academic counseling and accountability take place.”

Copeland called a current graduation rate of approximately 75 percent “unacceptable.”

“There will be no success in building higher future student enrollment when only three out of four students have earned their diploma,” he said. “Every student must have the opportunity to get a job, enter a vocational [school] or college of their choice or pursue a military career upon graduation.”

Copeland said he has been campaigning for five years to increase St. Paul’s allocation of school counselors in order to serve students better. He also proposes adding year-round school options “to stop the summer slide.”

Copeland suggests that school start times and transportation could be addressed through financing the purchase of new city buses so that St. Paul students can use them as students do in Minneapolis. “Without the needed new buses,” he said, “I would not support making any changes to St. Paul high school start times.”

Jeannie Foster was elected to the SPPS Board of Education in a special election in November 2016 to finish the term of Jean O’Connell, who had resigned partway through her term. Foster is



Jeannie Foster

now running for re-election to the seat. She described herself as “a Frogtown native and seasoned educator, serving 27 years working directly with children and families in St. Paul.”

“I and my children are products of St. Paul public schools; we are a reflection of the children and families served,” she said. Foster wants to continue serving on the board because “as a parent, educator and advocate, I have both the personal and professional experience to help move the district forward. I want to keep children at the center of decision-making.”

Foster described the enrollment challenge as “complex.” She listed multiple approaches: “Review of the services we offer and utilizing effective marketing strategies; working in partnerships with charter schools; creating early-learning hubs that will feed directly into our schools. All of this will require intentional collaboration and should be a priority in the district’s strategic planning.”

The board should analyze what’s working in schools with strong enrollment and why families choose them, she said. “That entails listening and engaging with all stakeholders and then moving forward with a plan that closely monitors and evaluates effectiveness.”

School start times should be “driven by data and ensure equity for all students,” she said. “We need a clear plan that ensures that student needs such as safety will be met and that community resources are properly in place to support the changes as we move forward.”



Election 2017

Falcon Heights City Council

Seven Falcon Heights residents are running for two open seats on the Falcon Heights City Council. Pamela Harris, who has been on the council for more than a decade, is not seeking re-election. Tony Fischer, who was elected to the council in 2015 to fill a two-year term vacated by Keith Gosline, is seeking a four-year term. Falcon Heights City Council members are paid a stipend of \$300 per month for their service.

We asked each candidate to tell us why they are running for city council and what their top two priorities would be if elected.—Kristal Leebrick

Tom Brace, a 26-year resident of Falcon Heights, ran unsuccessfully for a seat on the council in 2015. Brace has served on the Falcon Heights Planning Commission and as chair of that commission in the late 1990s, when the city was in negotiations with the University of Minnesota Board of Regents in regards to the building of the U's women's soccer stadium on Cleveland Avenue. He is the former director of the Washington State Fire Marshal's Office (1977-86) and was the Minnesota state fire marshal from 1987 to 2003. Part of that work included directing a team of inspectors that reviewed all Minnesota State Fair buildings, he said, and he continues to help the fair's administration with the



Tom Brace

Governor's Fire Service Day each summer at the fair. Brace also served as executive director of the Minnesota State Fire Chiefs Association for nine years.

Brace is interested in serving on the city council because of his background in public safety and his belief that "public safety is the core element in any city government."

"This fact is true in Falcon Heights today. The public has great expectations for this new [police] contract with Ramsey County, where we are going to be paying more for less. I am nationally known in fire and arson, where I have served as president of two major national/international Associations. I currently promote the concept of fire sprinklers in both residential and commercial property and am still a member of the Minnesota Governor's Council on Fire Prevention and Control.

"All my professional life I have worked to bring about consensus," he said. "I have worked closely with fire and police since 1975. In addition, I have an understanding of enforcement and regulation that I bring to the council position.

"It is time for a change on the city council. Seven people are running for two positions, and one of those is an incumbent. Only one police agency applied to serve the citizens of Falcon Heights. Falcon Heights deserved a choice, and they did not receive one. We need to make our new relationship work. Citizens of Falcon Heights have very high expectations and it is going to be a challenge to match those expectations with this new

relationship after 22 years with another agency. It is time to add an experienced professional who knows both police and fire [associations] to the council.

"My first priority is to help make the contract with Ramsey County work for all. My second priority is to reach out to the University of Minnesota to determine the future of our Community Park and to the state fair administration to begin a series of talks about the impact of their property on the City of Falcon Heights."

Ronald Dixon is a 2015 graduate of the University of Minnesota, where he earned his degree in political science and communication studies. He is a revenue examiner with the Minnesota Department of Revenue and serves as an executive board member and union steward of his local AFSCME chapter. He said

his experience in conflict resolution, policy analysis and fiscal discipline, and his passion for government, are qualities that make him a good candidate for the council. He and his spouse have lived in Falcon Heights for several years.

"There is a need to address many issues in our community, and I would like to help spearhead these progressive reforms," he said. "In the wake of the Philando Castile shooting, the election of Donald Trump, and other tragedies, I have brainstormed ways that I could potentially serve my community, and I have concluded that I can make the most positive impact as a local elected leader."

Here is his list of priorities:

"Police reform: by the time the next city council term begins, the new contract with the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office will already be finalized, and I will work to make improvements to the contract to make it better reflect our shared progressive values. I will also push for the passage of a \$15 municipal living-wage ordinance so that those who work in our community are not living in poverty; the creation of an organic recycling pick-up program to make environmental stewardship more accessible; the implementation of a ban on the use of tobacco smoking products within and directly outside of apartment buildings; the classification of Falcon Heights as a "Sanctuary City" to send the message that we are welcoming of everyone, regardless of race, ethnicity and religion; the continued

maintenance of our well-trodden roads; and the passage of transparent budgets that address the needs of our community while also being mindful of property-tax revenue. I will also look for ways to bring renter's rights to the table, and I will address the need for millennial representation in local government."

Tony Fischer, has lived in Falcon Heights with his wife for seven years and has two sons. He is completing a two-year term on the city council. Fischer is a highway planner at the Metropolitan Council and has a master's degree in applied economics.

"This technical and policy experience prepare me to analyze financial and other data and policies as they can be applied to the city of Falcon Heights," he said.

Fischer is running for re-election "to be sure everyone is heard, all positions are considered, to make sure facts and knowledge are brought to bear on each issue, but also to bring compassion to each issue," he said.

"I would like to make a thousand small but thoughtful decisions that can make our city an even better place to live, work and play than it already is. I would like to be sure decisions are thought through in all their complexity and second-order effects, and to always keep in mind what generations before us did for us and what we can do for the next generations. We face some difficult issues, but if we can look past easy answers, we can do well for ourselves and others.

Listing just two priorities is difficult, Fischer said. "Our city council must consider a wide variety of concerns, but I will first prioritize our city's budget. Paying careful attention to all the things that make up our budget not only keeps our taxes in check, especially important after the anticipated large 2018 increase, but it also is part of making sure the budget priorities reflect our values. Care with the budget is what allows us to accomplish park improvements, invest in supporting a more inclusive community and so many other things that make Falcon Heights a great place to live.

"My second priority is to make sure all voices are heard, that everyone has an opportunity to be included in making Falcon Heights what we want it to be. This leads to better decision-making but also a community of trust and caring. We need to carry forward the

momentum of the Falcon Heights Task Force on Policing and Inclusion. This requires priorities, room in the budget and energy from citizens to make sure some good comes out of the tragedy.

"As the council's liaison to the Community Engagement Commission, I am actively part of the conversations around next steps to follow through on the inclusion roadmap that the task force so thoughtfully laid out."

Melanie Leehy, is a Twin Cities native with 36 years of experience in community service, working with children, youth, seniors and families in urban, suburban and rural areas. She has lived in Falcon Heights for 12 years with her husband, John, and has served on city



Melanie Leehy

commissions and committees for 11 years. Her volunteer work includes serving as chair on both the Neighborhood Commission and Community Engagement Commission and co-chairing the Falcon Heights Task Force on Policing and Inclusion. She also worked as the office assistant at Falcon Heights City Hall, which she said gives her "a good working relationship with staff and council," she said.

Leehy describes Falcon Heights as a "city of residents and commuters" that is "poised to triumph through hardship."

"It's important that people of diverse backgrounds can feel comfortable not only as guests, but also as residents here," she said. "To me, government is about servant leadership. This means that as an elected official, I'm here to serve my city and not to seek my own personal gain. It calls for being insightful and creative in initiating growth and meeting the collective needs in the community."

Leehy's strengths are her "ability to genuinely listen, bring unity with diverse groups, initiate creative ideas and solutions, and understand various aspects of government are some of the strengths I carry in healthy servant leadership," she said. "My proven service and proven leadership will provide the strength and courage that our city needs in this hour."

Leehy feels strongly about "building our sense of community," she said. "This is foundational. As I stated years ago, whether things are

SPPS from 7

Andrea Touhey did not respond to our request for information. According to her campaign website, she has taught for 15 years and worked as a curriculum designer and program manager.

Marny Xiong described herself as "a proud alumna of St. Paul schools, born and raised in St. Paul to immigrant parents." She serves as a school manager in Minneapolis.



Marny Xiong

Xiong is seeking a seat on the SPPS school board because she believes "that education is the only opportunity for low-income students and students of color to get out of poverty.

"I am committed to shaping an equitable education for students to

ensure they have safe learning environments and graduate SPPS ready to succeed in college and the workforce," Xiong said.

"To increase enrollment, we must build relationships and invest in our diverse communities to strengthen our school-to-community relationship and retain families," Xiong said. "I am committed to enhancing our family engagement, investing in culturally specific programs, and shifting priorities to enhance and reflect the needs of families for all our students."

Concerning school start times, "I believe we need more conversations with students, parents and educators about the impact this would bring them," she said. "A time change, no matter how minimal, impacts family structures and the daily routine of stakeholders, such as arrangements to pick up children from the bus stop and more. Community input is critical."

★ Election 2017

Falcon Heights from 8

going great or we are in troubled times, the strength of our communities makes a world of difference. Now, this is imperative. Now, we are impacting the world," she said, noting how the July 2016 shooting of Philando Castile by a St. Anthony police officer on Larpenteur Avenue catapulted the city into international news.

"This tragedy has surfaced a need for us to collectively do our best to bring transformation," Leehy said. "Implementing the inclusion recommendations of the [Task Force on Policing and Inclusion] must take place. We must not be about just making policies but taking action. Seeing to it that the transition of our police service meets the true needs of our city and guests starts right away in the new year. These priorities as with other aspects of government such as demonstrating fiscal responsibility must be done with transparency, accountability, frugality and creativity."

Mark Miazga has lived in Falcon Heights for nearly three years and in the St. Paul area for more than 20 years. He is a research



Mark Miazga

coordinator at the University of Minnesota and chair of the Falcon Heights Environment Commission. Miazga has degrees in law and sociology and has worked in public health, health and human services, model ordinance creation and public policy research for two decades years in positions at the U of M, Wilder Foundation, Ramsey County and Thomson-Reuters. His civic work includes representing Senate District 66 on the city of St. Paul's Long-Range Capital Improvement Bonding Committee, serving as a Ramsey County head election judge, as a Ramsey County law clerk and as an aide in U.S. Sen. Paul Wellstone's office.

"I think I am uniquely qualified and committed to getting good things done for Falcon Heights on a host of issues, including the law enforcement contract, public engagement, parks, reasonable property taxes, public safety and others," he said.

If elected, Miazga would prioritize "ensuring that our community values are implemented after the new law-enforcement contract is finalized and that they are reflected in future negotiations and operations," and "continuing to seek outside funding sources to move the city forward on environmental issues and in other areas as well."

Paula Mielke has lived in Falcon Heights since 1990. She has a master's degree in business communications from the University of St. Thomas and worked in public relations for 30 years. Nearly four years ago, she made a career change and bought Grahn's Upholstery, a small Minneapolis business with two full-time employees. Mielke said she is known "for bringing people together and getting things done."



Paula Mielke

She was PTA president while her sons attended Falcon Heights Elementary School and in that role she helped secure a pedestrian light at the intersection of Hamline and Garden avenues, worked with others to lift the ban on biking to school and started a read-a-thon, a major fundraiser at the school. She has served on the Falcon Heights Parks and Recreation Commission and has represented Falcon Heights on the Ramsey County Library Board for the last eight years, serving two of those years as chair. Mielke helped form the group Falcon Heights We Can Do Better after the shooting of Philando Castile in 2016.

"I'm known for creative thinking and problem-solving," Mielke said. "I see something that needs to be done, I rally people together and make things happen."

The shooting of Castile "was a jolt to our community. It was heartbreaking to learn about racial disparity in policing on Larpenteur and Snelling."

"I knew that Falcon Heights could do better, and that became my mantra," she said. "I reached out to other residents, and we began meeting to talk about how to move our city forward. We submitted a resolution to the city council proposing a task force on policing.

We researched police contracts in the metro area and shared that information with the city administrator and mayor. At a council member's request, we calculated ticket revenue from low-level traffic violations to determine the impact on the city budget if these tickets were replaced with fix-it tickets or warnings."

Mielke and members of the Falcon Heights We Can Do Better group met with St. Anthony Police Chief Jon Mangseth "to ask questions about policing in our city," she said. "In August, we met with Ramsey County Sheriff Jack Serier and discussed data tracking, racial disparity, hiring practices and training.

"During these past 15 months, I wanted bold actions, a sense of urgency and better communication from our city leaders."

Her priorities are to "ensure a smooth transition to the new policing contract" and to "dive in and get to work on our city's comprehensive plan and evaluate the plan and all policies, procedures and budget against city values developed by the Policing and Inclusion Task Force. I will engage residents as much as possible in all planning and decision-making."

Mike Wade has lived in Falcon Heights for three years and was a member of the Task Force on Policing and Inclusion. Wade is an author, poet and publisher at Mizchief's Ink Publications. His book "Mirror on the Wall: Reflections of Racism and Social Justice" was published in 2016.



Mike Wade

"What makes me a good candidate is that I am a fresh set of eyes ... [and am] not afraid to ask questions and get to an answer so we can create solutions," he said. "Falcon Heights needs a new perspective represented amongst the city council, a perspective that represents its growing diversity."

Wade's priorities: rent control and implementing the recommendations of the Task Force for Policing and Inclusion, he said.

Roseville Area Schools, District 623

Residents in Falcon Heights and Lauderdale will cast votes Nov. 7 for the Roseville Area Schools Board of Education and for a referendum to approve a proposed \$144 million building bond. If approved, the money collected through an increase in property taxes will be used to upgrade and expand facilities at the Roseville Middle School, Roseville Area High School, Fairview Community Center and the district's eight other schools.

Three candidates are seeking election to three four-year terms open on the board of education: Kitty Gogins, Curtis Johnson and Frank Shaw.—Kristal Leebrick

Kitty Gogins has served on the Roseville Area School board for 12 years. She is running for re-election "because she strongly values giving back to her community and wants to continue helping ensure all our youth receive the solid foundation a good education can provide," she said. Gogins, her husband and their two children are Roseville Area Schools alums. Gogins



Kitty Gogins

is a graduate of the University of Minnesota and works as a consultant specializing in strategic and project leadership.

Frank Shaw has lived with his family in Roseville since 1993. He teaches mathematics at Hamline



Frank Shaw

University and his wife, Ruth, is a professor in the Ecology, Evolution and Behavior Department at the University of Minnesota. Their three children attended District 623 schools during the 1990s and 2000s. Shaw has been actively involved in the schools since his arrival in Minnesota, serving in various roles on PTAs and districtwide committees, especially those concerning mathematics. He served a term on the school board from 2006 to 2009, took a term off to lead a study abroad program in England, and is now completing a second term that began in 2014.

Curtis Johnson did not respond to requests for a photo or biographical information.

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Prepared & paid for by Dai Thao for Mayor, 1360 University Avenue W., Box 154, Saint Paul, MN 55104

City Files from 2

better place for all.
 “As a program developer at the Wilder Foundation, I use my talents to think creatively about solutions to community issues, and I’m responsible for writing grants and raising funds for programs that inspire community leadership and civic engagement.

“The future of St. Anthony Park belongs to the people who live, work and visit the neighborhood. As a board member I will use community input to help shape the future of a safe, friendly, thriving, prosperous and inclusive St. Anthony Park.

“For the past year I’ve been a member of SAPCC’s Equity Committee, working to ensure that SAPCC filters its actions through the lens of equity, diversity and inclusion. As a member of SAPCC’s board, I will continue to uplift these values.”

Karen Nelson: “Longtime resident of St. Paul, civil engineer, resident in Westgate area of St. Anthony Park, background in civil engineering and construction, one year of experience with the Land Use Committee and Weyerhaeuser working group.

Letters from 5

It is important that our city values fiscal responsibility, honors our senior citizens, creates opportunities for our youth and underserved, safety and environmental stewardship. My proven service and proven leadership provide the strength and courage that our city needs in this hour.

My name is Melanie Leehy, and I’m asking for your vote on Nov. 7.

*Melanie Leehy
 Falcon Heights*

I am Mike Wade and I am running for a seat on the Falcon Heights City Council.

I am a hard-working father, author, speaker and publisher of my home-based company, “Mizchief’s Ink Publications,” where I have helped independent writers and filmmakers with publication services. I have a background in financial services and consumer banking. My early brushes with the law as a young man was a baptism by fire, through which a passion for humanity and community was born.

My unique experiences allow me to speak from a perspective of the excluded and disenfranchised.

I have been a Falcon Heights

“[I want to work] on the council’s efforts to pro-actively build a vision of future development in the neighborhood that better serves residents long-term and brings more affordable housing to the neighborhood.

“I have special concern and commitment to racial equity from my experience working as a white ally to black community organizations for many years. As a lesbian woman, I could provide an LGBTQ perspective. I am very committed to expanding affordable housing.”

Bylaw changes at SAPCC

The St. Anthony Park Community Council Board of Directors will vote on changes to the bylaws at the board meeting Thursday, Nov. 9, 7-9 p.m. at Jennings Community Learning Center, 2455 University Ave. New board directors will also be confirmed at this meeting.

Weyerhaeuser update on Nov. 2

Dominium will present designs for new housing developments at the Weyerhaeuser site on Franklin and Emerald at the Land Use Committee

meeting Thursday, Nov. 2, at 7 p.m. at Jennings Community Learning Center. All board and committee meetings are open for community members to attend and participate in discussion.

Learn about the SAPCC 10-year plan at two community meetings

SAPCC will host two community meetings in November to unveil the 10-year plan. More than 400 people responded to the survey and hundreds more weighed in at events throughout the summer and fall. Those ideas are driving the council’s priorities for the next 10 years.

Council members will share what neighbors have said, drafts of the 10-year goals from the council committees, and include interactive activities for participants to share more feedback. The meetings will be held Saturday, Nov. 11, noon-2 p.m. at St. Paul Neighborhood Network, 550 Vandalia St., and Wednesday, Nov. 15, 6-8 p.m. at Luther Seminary, Northwestern Hall, 1501 Fulham St.

done. I believe that Falcon Heights can be a catalyst or hub for healing between the many communities throughout Minnesota. I see this being done by the Falcon Heights City Council promoting more community inclusiveness, community education and safety.

*Mike Wade
 Falcon Heights*

During the last few weeks I have continued to talk to Falcon Heights residents at forums, meet and greets, front porches, homes, apartments and in one instance on someone’s roof. My conversations have reinforced my belief that I have the right combination of government experience, leadership, demeanor and commitment to move the city forward.

I hope to earn your vote on Nov. 7, and I’m proud to have the endorsements of numerous citizens, policymakers, Out Front Minnesota and the St. Paul Regional Labor Federation.

*Mark Miazga
 Falcon Heights*

resident and good neighbor for three years. It was the tragic event of Philando Castile in July 2016 in which my voice was first heard. During a community event where the subject was on community policing, the topic of “sensitivity training” for police across Minnesota was brought up as a suggestion from a panel that consisted of members of the ACLU, NAACP, the Women’s League of Roseville and a retired police officer. I posed the question, “Why do we need to teach police officers how not to shoot black youth when they don’t have to be taught how not to shoot white youth?” From there, I became a vocal advocate for the inclusion of all those who live in and travel through Falcon Heights.

Being the only black member and a dominant voice on the Falcon Heights Task Force for Community Policing and Inclusion, I presented perspectives that challenged the way the other task force members and city council members envisioned inclusion and equity in the community. I played a key role in helping develop the task force recommendations approved by the Falcon Heights City Council.

There is still much work to be

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The Birdman of Lauderdale by Clay Christensen

'Have you seen the turkeys?'

I often get reports from my neighbors about a family of wild turkeys that wander around Lauderdale. "Have you seen the turkeys?" they'll ask. We chat about when and where they were seen, what they were doing, how many there were in the flock.

This year, my first encounter with a wild turkey was in early April as I walked our dog, Chance, along the border of the Midland Hills Golf Course. We walked, following Chance's nose, with me watching for burdock plants. Suddenly a turkey flushed a few steps behind us. She must have been hunkered down right along the fence, watched us go by, and then decided to make a break for it. She strolled away through the underbrush, leaving me and Chance open-mouthed.

We saw her in our yard several times. And, then, in mid-May, a male turkey showed up. I only saw him that one time.

Turkey hens incubate their eggs for about 28 days. The chicks fledge in another six to 10 days. Thus, in the fullness of time, on June 24, we were visited by the turkey hen and five poults, or chicks. They returned the next two days, eating Juneberries right off the tree. By the end of June, they were comfortable enough that they were getting up on the patio table, trying to reach more berries.

Sadly, on July 8, I recorded that Mama Turkey had only four chicks with her. Two of them actually made it up into the Juneberry tree, looking a little unsure about how they got there and how they were to get down. I wondered what took that missing chick. It could have been anything from a fox to an automobile.

I don't think it could have been a cat. My neighbor, Jim, and I were sitting at my patio table when he noticed that the turkey family was approaching from the neighbor's yard. As we watched them pecking away, a calico cat came around the side of our house, headed to the neighbor's front steps and watched those yummy turkey chicks just a few feet away.

Mom was having none of it. She started taking her long, determined strides toward the cat. The cat, no fool, turned and exited through the porch railing. The cat would have been no match for Mama Turkey, who wears spiked "heels."

Before I cut the grass, I walk through the yard picking up sticks and stones, anything that could nick the mower blade. I use a grabber on a short pole so I don't have to bend over so much. My attention is focused on the task.

As I finished the front yard one day, I turned to see if I had missed anything and there behind me was



Turkey sightings have become an everyday occurrence here. These turkeys are atop a garage in St. Anthony Park. Bugle photo

the hen and her four chicks. They were doing their own pickup routine, unconcerned by my presence. I moved to the porch steps, sat down and watched the family go about its business.

Chance and I have had various encounters with the family on our early-morning outings. As we come out the side door, Chance is fixated on getting to the front yard as quickly as possible. One August morning, as we reached the corner of the house, there were the turkeys, now all about the same size as the hen. Barking ensued and I redirected Chance to the back yard.

Another morning, as we walked down the alley, here was the family on both sides; Mom and a poult or two on one side, a couple of poults alone on the other. Chance and I stayed back to let the delinquent kids figure out how to get over to their mother.

Both groups were behind chain-link fences on their respective sides, so it involved some flight action. One youngster got up on the garage roof and then launched across the alley, over the fence on that side, into the

yard where Mom was. All were eventually reunited and Mom's clucking stopped.

In late August, as I headed out for an early-morning birding trip, I came upon the hen and her four youngsters in a yard a block over from our place. My car lights must have startled them because they all gathered tightly together in the alarm pose, necks stretched straight up. They looked like a turkey tipi. If Mom was trying to teach them the high alert posture, they got it.

In September, I found the family relaxing in the back yard. A couple of them had nestled down into the grass, grooming themselves or just dozing in the sunshine. I went discretely to the garage side door, got the tool I was looking for and headed back to the front yard.

I continue to see the family of five nearly daily. I am interested to see how they do this winter.

Clay Christensen's book, "The Birdman of Lauderdale," is available in local bird stores, bookstores and BirdmanBook.com

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Mural from 1

Friends of the Mississippi River (FMR), reached out to the Como Active Citizens Network for help. Clayton organizes the storm drain-stenciling program with the city of St. Paul. The mural is an extension of that program.

The Como location was chosen because the storm drain is next to the lake and it's easy to see that "waste that goes into this grate goes to the lake," Clayton said, as she stood behind a table where jars of lake water sat labeled with their contents: dirt, road salt, trash, leaves—all items pulled from the lake. "We had a jar with cigarette butts, but it got broken," she said. The jars demonstrate that "anything that goes down a storm drain ends up in our waters."

Planning for the mural began in July with a gathering that included Clayton, Lira, neighbors and members of the Como Active Citizens Network. The group of nearly 20 children and adults

brainstormed with Lira about what makes Lake Como special to them. In the end, a design featuring water, fish, turtles and a heron was chosen for the project.

Lira, an art teacher at Roosevelt High School in Minneapolis, has been working and teaching art in the Twin Cities for more than 25 years. His mural work includes the Minneapolis South High School Human Rights Mural Project, the exterior mural at the Seward Co-op Friendship Store on 38th Street in Minneapolis and work at the Resource Center of the Americas in Minneapolis, in a hospital in Wadena, Minn., and at schools in Bloomington and Edina.



Photos clockwise from the top:

Jars of water containing some of the garbage pulled from the lake. *Photos by Mike Krivit*

When Lira dipped his bucket into Lake Como to get water for his paintbrushes, he pulled up a turtle.

A closer look at the turtle.

Artist Gustavo Lira, Kate Clayton of the Friends of the Mississippi River and the 'The First Storm Drain Mural in St. Paul.'



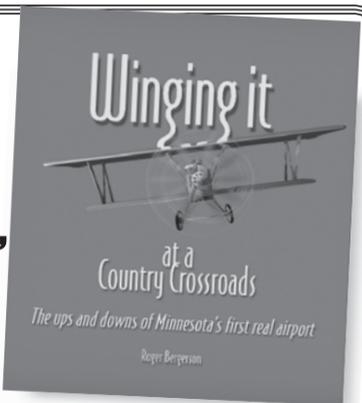
"There used to be an airport at Snelling & Larpenteur?"

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History:  **One darn thing after another**
 Roger Bergerson chronicles our remarkable past

Sarita, the lost lake

The lake was on the eastern edge of a large wetland complex that included the nearby Kasota / Bridal Veil ponds.

Late on a July afternoon in 1912, Albert Woods, dean of the agricultural college on the University of Minnesota's St. Paul campus, and Willard Boyd, the college veterinarian, were walking home along Raymond Avenue when they were hailed by two teenage boys.

The youths frantically related that they had been swimming in the nearby lagoon when their friend, Arthur Johnson, 15, got in trouble and disappeared under the water.

The four hurried back to conduct a fruitless search for Johnson, during which Woods almost came to grief himself. A non-swimmer, he fell off a log into 10 feet of water and had

to be dragged to shore. The body of Johnson, who lived at 1529 Van Buren Ave., was recovered later.

The misadventure occurred in a remnant of what had once been Lake Sarita, located approximately where the Commonwealth Terrace Cooperative student housing is today, on the northeast corner of the intersection of Cleveland and Como avenues.

Sarita, presumably the diminutive for Sarah, appeared on maps as early as 1850.

The lake was on the eastern edge of a large wetland complex that included the nearby Kasota/Bridal Veil ponds, all of it ultimately draining southwest to the Mississippi River.

The lake was gone by the early 20th century, although there was still water in the area, some of it due to dredging conducted by the adjacent Minnesota State Fair. Several years earlier, the fair had leased 40 acres of

lake and marsh from the university to complement some of its own land in a "canals of Venice"-style attraction, the centerpiece of ill-fated plans to host a World's Fair. (Park Bugle, May 2015, "World's Fair in Minnesota? That is so yesterday")

But keeping water in the canals proved difficult and the fair managers abandoned the project, converting some of the reclaimed land to the entertainment area that became known as the Midway.

The lagoon was gradually filled in, although a small wetland remained, largely ignored and neglected. By the 1960s it was hidden away behind the campus power plant's coal piles. (Today, Fire Station 23 is directly south of it, across Como Avenue.)

It's not clear why the Sarita remnant survived, according to Scott Alexander, research scientist with the university's Department of Earth Sciences, but he's glad it did.

"I don't know if they ran out of material or if someone realized that what remained was the de facto storm-water basin for the St. Paul campus," he says.

Campus growth, particularly in the post-World War II period, added acres of impervious surfaces and increased the potential for flooding.

Beginning in 2005, improvements in on-campus storm-water management were implemented, including the addition of basins to trap sediment and moderate water flow.

"By reducing the sediment load and large fluctuations in water level, the whole Sarita area has a much better chance of favoring native



The entrance to the wetland today. Photo by Roger Bergerson



In this view of the wetland from around 1910, there appears to be dredged material on the far bank. The Minnesota State Fair's new grandstand is in the background. Photo courtesy of the Minnesota Historical Society



Even though in-filling was well under way, a 1916 real estate atlas continued to show the lagoon system, with Como Avenue running along its southern border. Author's collection

plants," Alexander said.

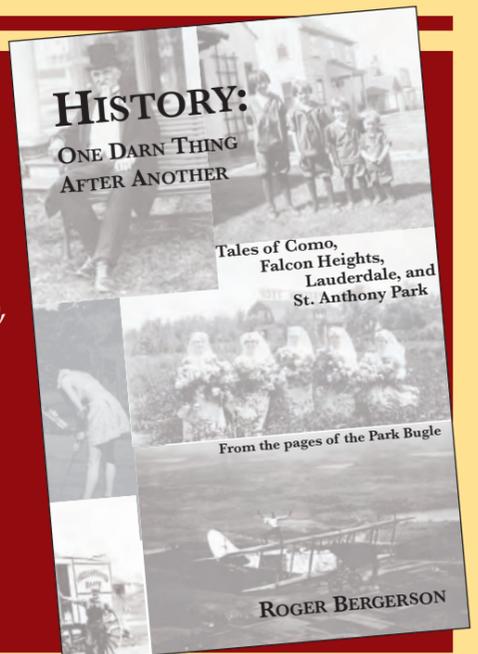
Visitors on a morning this past summer saw a sharp-shinned hawk glide through, a gray catbird skulk in the underbrush and hummingbirds dart among the jewelweed. Goldenrod, asters and bee balm grew in profusion.

No longer a forgotten swamp, today the Sarita wetland is recognized as an important resource by students, researchers and nature lovers.

HISTORY: ONE DARN THING AFTER ANOTHER

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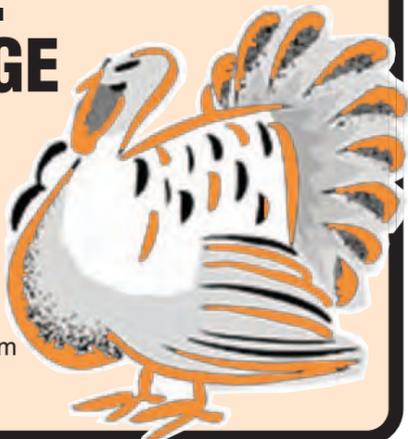


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Business News

Milton Square boutique promises wide variety of offerings

By Jason DeMoe

For the last five years, Heather Brabant has been toiling away in the retail industry dreaming of one day owning her own shop and doing things her way. Those dreams began materializing in September as she began cleaning, painting and preparing to open her Creative Gathering Boutique in Milton Square at 2232 Carter Ave. in the St. Anthony Park neighborhood. She welcomed her first customers in mid-October.

"I have always had a passion and a drive to want something more and something of my own," Brabant said. "I [would] really love to be a part of a community and I am hoping I can accomplish that with this shop."

Brabant's boutique will offer an eclectic blend of handmade items from local artists, home décor, vintage pieces, antiques, and new retail. A native of Princeton, Brabant used to manage an event called "Arts in the Alley" in that city. Many of the contacts she made there will sell their wares in her new shop, but she is open to exploring new opportunities with local vendors.

"My mission is to support local artists and musicians and really become a place for community members to gather," she said.

Milton Square is a European-style complex with unique architecture and a visually appealing landscape design. Brabant had her eye on the space in 2016, but the timing was not right for her. One year later, she noticed that it was again available for rent, and with a little push and support from her mother, Sherry, she did not hesitate.

"I was very picky because I had certain views of what I could see my store being," she said. "This was the perfect fit and working with the landlord, Heather O'Malley, was great because she is so easy to deal with and really wants to help you every step of the way."

Aside from the sales side of her boutique, Brabant also plans to host events and classes.

"The classes will be available for people to learn to make their own home décor, or knit, or make some seasonal item or craft depending on the time of year, or really any other thing that might come my way," she said. "I even have a friend willing to teach some nutrition classes, so I really want to have a wide selection of offerings that appeal to all members of the community."

Brabant also has plans to feature local musicians and poets both outside in the courtyard as well as inside on a small stage that she plans



Heather Brabant stands near the entryway to her new store. Photo by Jason DeMoe.

to build.

"Of course I will have singers playing guitar, but I want to do even more than that," she said. "I would like to find a violinist or a pianist or even a trumpeter because I think it would be something that people don't always get to experience and it would also help to support all different kinds of local musicians. I would also love to have some

spoken-word poets come in because I think supporting different kinds of art is very important. Adding those elements to my shop will only help to make this the community hub that I hope it becomes."

Brabant's Community Gathering Boutique is open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, and noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday. You can learn more at

www.creativegatheringboutique.com or on Facebook and Instagram at [creativegatheringboutiquemn](https://www.instagram.com/creativegatheringboutiquemn).

Jason DeMoe has worked as a newspaper reporter for seven years in both Wisconsin and Minnesota. He lives in White Bear Township, enjoys the outdoors and has hiked at least one trail in every Minnesota state park.

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CEZ to host 'Make It Here' networking and social event Nov. 8

If you Make It Here in the Creative Enterprise Zone (CEZ), come share, listen, swap stories and meet creative kindred Wednesday, Nov. 8, 5-7 p.m. at the University Enterprise Laboratories, 1000 Westgate Drive, south entrance.

Chris Pennington, creative director of Can Can Wonderland, will emcee a panel of Creative Enterprise Zone "makers" in an exchange around how the CEZ works for, and with, them in fostering dynamic partnerships.

Panelists contributing to the discussion will include Martin Ludden and Andrew Williamson of Making Media Making Change, a partnership with the Higher Education Consortium for Urban Affairs (HECUA) and the St. Paul Neighborhood Network (SPNN); Lynn Osterman, University Enterprise Laboratories (UEL); Tory Christensen and Carri Ann Christensen of Landbridge Ecological, a native landscape installation, land management, and ecological design company; Scott

Johnson of Black Stack Brewing; and Bruce Olson of True Stone Coffee.

This event is free and open to the public. All those in the CEZ, and those considering a move into or near the CEZ, are encouraged to come and share experiences in a no-pressure, fun and casual atmosphere. Complimentary refreshments donated by CEZ businesses, including BlackStack Brewing, will be served.

Interested in donating to events like these or volunteering with the CEZ? Contact the CEZ by email, info@CreativeEnterpriseZone.org.

The CEZ is a recognized center of creativity and enterprise in South St. Anthony. Its physical boundaries are I-94 to the south, Prior Avenue to the east, Energy Park Drive on the north and the Minneapolis city line on the west.

It is an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit supervised by a Board of Directors, the Creative Enterprise Zone Action Committee. Learn more at creativeenterprisezone.org.

The Naughty Greek to open on University Avenue

By Kristal Leebrik

When Angelo Giovanis left Greece—and his parents' restaurant business—just after high school, he said he would never work in a restaurant again.

He attended the University of Belgium in Brussels and spent the next 10 years there, where he met his wife, Kristen, a Minnesota native. After their first child was born, the couple decided to move to his wife's home state.

Nineteen years later, after a career in the medical device business, the guy who said he wouldn't work in a kitchen again is about to open a second restaurant on University Avenue in St. Paul. The second Naughty Greek will open at 2400 University Ave., in the C&E Flats & Lofts building, in late November or early December if all goes to plan, Giovanis said.

Giovanis' catering business and first restaurant, which opened at Snelling and Selby avenues a year ago, has been so successful that he needed a new space with a larger kitchen and more storage to house the olive oil, feta cheese, honey and olives that Giovanis will import from Greece, he said. The restaurant will seat up to 74 people.

The menu at the University Avenue restaurant will be similar to

the Snelling Avenue menu but will offer more daily specials, and he'll have room to install a roaster for chicken gyro, Giovanis said, something he hasn't been able to do at his smaller shop on Snelling. The Naughty Greek's signature dish is pork gyro—layers of locally sourced meat, herbs, garlic, olive oil and citrus—that he stacks and roasts in a traditional gyro grill. What makes his dish unique is (1) it's pork, not lamb, and (2) it's not the frozen pressed-meat product that is readily available from restaurant vendors.

"It's so important to use a combination of different cuts," Giovanis said. "It's not those cones of meat. It's the traditional fresh product," which he serves with warm pita bread and tzatziki, a yogurt sauce made with "real Greek yogurt" not "Greek-style yogurt," he said. He does offer lamb chops "grilled with lemon, oregano, salt and pepper. It's simple and delicious."

And the feta cheese on the salads? "Greek feta. It really is different from what you get elsewhere. It's 70 percent sheep milk and 30 percent goat's milk. These are Greek goats and Greek sheep," he said. "They graze on very different plants than what you have here." The wine and beer? All Greek labels. So what about the name? "It



The Naughty Greek on University Avenue was all concrete and steel wall studs in mid-October, but by December (fingers crossed), Angelo Giovanis will be serving fresh gyro and other Greek foods made with many ingredients shipped direct from his home country. Photo by Kristal Leebrik

means we're going against the grain," Giovanis said. "My wife came up with the name."

Giovanis chose the new location

for his second shop because of its proximity to Highway 280 and I-94. And because he loves St. Paul. His experience working with the city of

St. Paul "was so positive there was no reason to get up and try something [in Minneapolis]," he said.

Business Briefs

Steve Wellington named a top 10 'most-admired CEO'

Steve Wellington, president and owner of real estate company Wellington Management, was named one of Minnesota's "10 most-admired CEOs" by the Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal in September.

Each year, the Business Journal awards 10 Minnesota executives who demonstrate strong leadership and integrity, manage impressive financial performance for their company, and show a commitment to the community.

Wellington, a Massachusetts native with a bachelor's degree in English literature from Yale University, is known for opening staff meetings by reading a poem. He came to Minnesota in the 1970s, obtained a master's degree in public affairs from the University of Minnesota's Humphrey Institute, and worked in St. Paul's Planning and Economic Development Dept.

In 1984, he received a Bush Foundation Fellowship, studied at Stanford University's School of Business and obtained a second master's degree. He started Wellington Management in 1985.

The Business Journal cited Wellington's role in helping his church, Plymouth Congregational Church in Minneapolis, build a controversial 40-unit affordable housing complex for homeless people. Despite a court battle, the



Steve Wellington

apartments were built and now Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative, of which Wellington is a founding board director, has worked with other churches in building 400 units of affordable housing.

When the Business Journal asked him what was the most pressing issue facing our region, he replied, "Solving the problem of the increasing disparity between the 'haves' and 'have-nots.'"

Wellington and his wife, Kathy, have lived in St. Anthony Park for 40 years and have three children and four grandchildren.

Alchemy celebrates 25 years

In 1989, Geoffrey Warner quit his "day job" as an architect at a Minneapolis firm, and began his "day+many-other-hours" job laying the foundation for what became Alchemy in 1992.

This year marks Alchemy's 25th anniversary; 2017 also marks the 15th anniversary of Alchemy's weeHouse, the contemporary prefabricated modular home first designed for a Minnesota Orchestra violinist in 2002. Since then, weeHouses have been celebrated as objects of architectural optimism and design efficiencies.

Working with factories around the United States, Alchemy has delivered more than 35 weeHouses to spots in California, Oregon, Maine, Virginia, Wisconsin and Texas.

Along with single-family homes, projects on the books include rooftop weeHouses for Minneapolis's Uptown neighborhood and an eco-village featuring wee-, barn-, and lightHouses in St. Paul.

Alchemy's other projects include Bang Brewing, 2399 Capp Road in St. Anthony Park; single-family homes; renovations; retail stores and façades; commercial offices; restaurants; and art installations, including its LightHotel, a one-room mobile hotel that debuted at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts (Mia) last year.

You can find out more about Alchemy at www.weehouse.com.

HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS

St. Anthony Park Dental Care, 2278 Como Avenue

Nate Cogswell, DDS 651-644-3685

Email: sheila@tagdds.com

Paul Kirkegaard, DDS 651-644-9216

Email: sapdentalcare@comcast.net

www.pkdds.com

Todd Grossmann, DDS

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NOVEMBER EVENTS

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

1 WEDNESDAY

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

St. Anthony Park Book Club, 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 storytime in Mandarin Chinese, St. Anthony Park Library, 10:30 a.m.

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

3 FRIDAY

Preschool NatureSmart storytime, every Friday, St. Anthony Park Library, 10:30 a.m. There will be no storytime on Friday, Nov. 10.

Walking in the Langford Park gym from 1-2 p.m. every Friday. Free and open to adults.

4 SATURDAY

"Welcome the People: The Musical

Legacy of the Reformation" with the Rose Ensemble, St. Anthony Park Library, 2 p.m.

Adam Granger's sixth annual Neighborhood Concert, St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ, 7:30 p.m. Opening band: Granger's Moonshine. Pay what you can, suggested donation \$20.

6 MONDAY

Middle School Book Club, St. Anthony Park Library, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

7 TUESDAY

Election Day.

Baby/toddler storytime, every Tuesday, St. Anthony Park Library, 9:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

SAP Garden Club: "Rain Gardens: Beyond the Basics," presented by Diane Galvin of Eco Logic, St. Matthew's Episcopal Church Fellowship Hall (entrance on Chelmsford Street), refreshments, 7 p.m., program, 7:30-8:30 p.m. All are welcome.

8 WEDNESDAY

Sweet Rhubarb band, Urban Growler Brewery, 7-9:30 p.m.

9 THURSDAY

Speaker Pauline Boss will talk about Ambiguous Loss at St. Anthony United Church of Christ, 10-11:30 a.m. All are welcome.

St. Anthony Park Area Seniors Cinema Series, "Loving," St. Anthony Park Library, 2 p.m. All welcome. Free.

10 FRIDAY

St. Anthony Park Library is closed.

SAPAS Game Day, Centennial United Methodist Church, 10 a.m.-noon. No charge or registration required.

Dow Open Studio, Meet the Artists, Dow Building, 2242 W. University Ave., 5-10 p.m.

"Called to Create" with Dawn Carlson Conn, St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ, 6:15-7:45 p.m. Supper at 5:30 p.m.

CD-release concert with Remedy Drive, Centennial United Methodist Church St. Anthony Park campus, 7 p.m. Tickets are \$8 pre-sale and \$10 the day of the show. Get tickets at boilingpoint.storenvy.com.

Writers Reading: A StorySlices Studio Event, Dow Artist Gallery, main floor of the Dow Building, 2242 W. University Ave., 7-9 p.m.

11 SATURDAY

St. Anthony Park Library is closed.

Dow Open Studio, Meet the Artists, Dow Building, 2242 W. University Ave., noon-8 p.m.

12 SUNDAY

After-church potluck at Centennial United Methodist Church St. Anthony Park campus, 11 a.m.

15 WEDNESDAY

Authors Amy and Dave Freeman will read from their book "A Year in the Wilderness," Micawber's, 7 p.m.

16 THURSDAY

Preschool Storytime in Mandarin Chinese, Fire Room at Commonwealth Terrace

Community Center, 1250 Fifield Ave., Falcon Heights, 10:30 a.m.

17 FRIDAY

SAPAS Game Day, Centennial United Methodist Church, 10 a.m.-noon. No charge or registration required.

Maker Camp: Hands-on, drop-in activities for youth ages 8-12, St. Anthony Park Library, noon-2 p.m.

18 SATURDAY

Intro to Hand Drumming Workshop, Women's Drum Center, 10 a.m.-noon. Learn basic techniques for the bass, tone and slap sounds that make the drum come alive. Drums provided. Cost is \$30. Register at www.womensdrumcenter.org.

19 SUNDAY

Sunday Afternoon Book Club, "The Underground Railroad," Colson Whitehead, Micawber's, 1:30-3 p.m. All are welcome.

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. Children welcome. Co-sponsored by the District 12 Community Council.

23 THURSDAY

Thanksgiving Day: St. Anthony Park Library is closed.

24 FRIDAY

Board at the Library: Come play board games at St. Anthony Park Library, noon-3 p.m. All ages welcome.

SAPAS Game Day, City Gables, 10 a.m.-noon. No charge or registration required.

SENIOR EXERCISE

St. Anthony Park Area Seniors

No exercise classes during the week of Nov. 20-24 for Thanksgiving break.

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

Tuesdays and Fridays, St. Anthony Park Library, 2:30-3:30 p.m. Chair yoga is in place of exercise class on Nov. 3 & 17.

Wednesdays, Centennial United Methodist Church, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

FREE SENIOR BLOOD PRESSURE CLINICS

Como Park/Falcon Heights Block Nurse Program:

Fourth Monday, Falcon Heights City Hall, 12:45-1:30 p.m.

Third Thursdays, Arbor Pointe Senior Apartments, 10-11 a.m.

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

Saint Anthony Park Area Seniors (SAPAS)

Wednesdays, Centennial United Methodist Church, 11:30 a.m.-noon.

Friday, Nov. 6, St. Anthony Park Library, 2-2:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 14, Seal Hi-Rise, 3-3:30 p.m.

VENUE INFORMATION

Arbor Pointe Senior Apartments, 635 W. Maryland Ave.

Centennial United Methodist Church SAP campus, 2200 Hillside Ave., 651-603-8946

Falcon Heights City Hall, 2077 W. Larpenteur Ave.

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

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

Micawber's, Carter & Como, lower level Milton Square, 651-646-5506

Olson Campus Center, Luther Seminary, 1490 Fulham St.

Seal Hi-Rise, 825 Seal St., 651-298-4673

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

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

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



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A month of merriment

The season of fun begins just before Thanksgiving, when the Park Bugle's December fun guide hits the streets.

We're happy to tell our readers about concerts, plays, Santa Claus appearances, musical performances and more.

Submit your event by Wednesday, Nov. 8. Send it to editor@parkbugle.org or mail it to Editor, Park Bugle, P.O. Box 8126, St. Paul, MN 55108.

All events need to include the event title, date and time, address, admission price if there is one, contact information and a description of the event.



Neighbors



Walking the CROP Hunger Walk for 30 years

Ted Homdrom, 99, was one of the walkers from St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church who walked in the annual CROP Hunger Walk Oct. 15. The walk is sponsored by Church World Service and raises funds for food programs in the United States and abroad. Homdrom has participated in the CROP Walk for nearly 30 years and is a top fundraiser. His niece, Nancy Homdrom, walked with him that morning.

Photo by Andy Sackreiter

MCEA awards local environmental leaders

Two St. Anthony Park residents were recently awarded for their environmental work by the Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy (MCEA). District 66A Rep. Alice Hausman, DFL, received the Paddling Upstream Award for her efforts to secure funding for transit projects and for her long-standing advocacy to prevent copper-nickel mining pollution. Hausman is the minority leader on the House Capitol Investment Committee.

Greta Gauthier, legislative director of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, was recognized for her defense of Minnesota's environmental protection laws. This is the first time the MCEA has presented an award to a Minnesota executive branch employee. Gauthier received the Environmental Envoy Award, which is given to agency staff members who show leadership defending Minnesota's environmental protections.

Also honored were Sens. Chris Eaton, DFL-Brooklyn Center; Erik Simonson, DFL-Duluth; and Rep. Jamie Becker-Finn, DFL-Roseville; for their environmental leadership.

Local boy cast in Stages Theatre Co.'s 'Beauty and the Beast'

Chase Kozak of St. Anthony Park has been cast as Monsieur De'arque in Disney's "Beauty and the Beast Jr." at Stages Theatre Co. in Hopkins.

The show opens Friday, Nov. 17, and runs through Thursday, December 28. The production is recommended for all ages.

Visit www.stagestheatre.org for specific performance dates and times, or call the box office at 952-979-1111, option 4, Tuesday through Saturday, noon to 6 p.m. Tickets are \$25 for adults; \$21 for seniors, ages 60 and older; and \$18 for children, ages 5 to 17. Tickets to the Saturday, Dec. 2, 2:30 p.m. performance at the Snowball winter gala start at \$50 with proceeds supporting STC's outreach and access programs.

'Year in the Wilderness' authors to read at Micawber's Nov. 15

Amy and Dave Freeman, authors of "A Year in the Wilderness," will read from their new book at Micawber's, Wednesday, Nov. 15, at 7 p.m. Micawber's is located in the lower level of Milton Square at Como and Carter avenues in St. Anthony Park.

Published by Minneapolis' Milkweed Editions, the book is an illustrated account of their year living in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness to raise awareness about the threats of sulfide-ore copper mining.

Before their year in the BWCAW, they had traveled thousands of miles by canoe, kayak and dogsled through some of the world's wildest places, from the Amazon to the Arctic. National Geographic named them Adventurers of the Year in 2014, and their images, videos and articles have been published by a wide range of media sources from the CBC, NBC and FOX to the Chicago Tribune, National Geographic and Minnesota Public Radio. They also run the Wilderness Classroom, an educational nonprofit organization

that introduces children to wild places and unique cultures.

Spend an evening creating

Nourish your heart, mind and spirit at "Called to Create" with Dawn Carlson Conn Friday, Nov. 10, at St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ, 6:15-7:45 p.m. Supper will be offered at 5:30 p.m.

Enjoy intergenerational art-making and have fun with colors, textures and shapes. Art supplies will be provided. No experience is necessary. The vent is free and open to the public, and childcare will be provided. St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ is located at 2129 Commonwealth Ave. Call 651-646-7173 for more information.

November concerts at Celtic Junction Arts Center

Three-time Live Ireland "Best Irish Vocalist" Norah Rendell will head up a song-based trio with multi-instrumentalists Brian Miller and Randy Gosa on Friday, Nov. 10, at the Celtic Junction Arts Center, 835 N. Prior Ave. Music will begin at 8 p.m. Admission is \$20 at the door; \$16 advance tickets are available at celticjunction.org. It's free for kids 18 and under.

Mundy, one of Ireland's most exciting live performers, will perform Friday, Nov. 17, at 8 p.m. Admission is \$25 at the door; \$20 advance tickets available at celticjunction.org. The concert is free for kids 18 and under.

League to present program on the role of immigrants in Minnesota

The Roseville Area League of

Women Voters will host a presentation on the role immigrants will continue to play in Minnesota Monday, Nov. 13, 6:30-8 p.m., in the Community Room of the Roseville Library, 2180 Hamline Ave. Matt Schmit, former state senator and current adjunct instructor in economic competitiveness at the University of Minnesota's Humphrey School of Public Affairs, will discuss recent efforts in Minnesota to understand and emphasize the benefits of immigration to Minnesota's workforce and economic competitiveness. The presentation is co-sponsored by the Ramsey County Library-Roseville and is free and open to the public.

A conversation about health care

Interested in advocating for a universal single-payer healthcare plan for Minnesota? Join Minnesota Sen. John Marty, DFL, Thursday, Nov. 16, for a conversation on his proposed universal, single-payer Minnesota Health Plan legislation.

The event will be held at Falcon Heights City Hall, 2077 W. Larpenteur Ave. (Please park only in the city-hall parking lot or on the street.) Former state Rep. Mindy Greiling will facilitate the discussion. The talk will be hosted by the Roseville Area Advocates for Minnesota Health Plan and Health Care for All Minnesota.

For more information, you can download a copy of Marty's book "Healing Health Care: The Case for

a Commonsense Universal Health System" at mnhealthplan.org.

Program looks at politics today

Roseville Library will present a new three-part series, "American Politics in the Age of Trump: A First Look at History," for three Tuesdays, at 12:30 p.m., starting Oct. 31 at the library, 2180 N. Hamline Ave. The series will feature speakers from a variety of political positions and explore the historical roots of some of the political issues under discussion today.

On Oct. 31, U of M law professor and former White House counsel Richard Painter will present "White House Ethics: A Historical Inquiry."

On Nov. 7, Hamline University and U of M law professor David A. Schultz will present "One Year After the Trump Election: How Did We Get Here?"

Conservative speaker and writer Chuck Chalberg will present "The Trump Movement: A Conservative View" on Nov. 14. Chalberg will give an overview of recent political history from a right-of-center perspective. Chalberg recently retired from Normandale Community College, where he taught American history.

The series is free and registration is not required.

'Sweet Charity' opens at Hamline

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with PAULINE BOSS

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Pauline Boss

Educator, researcher and family therapist Pauline Boss leads a conversation. Free and open to the public.

Thursday, November 9, 10-11:30 a.m.
St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ
2129 Commonwealth Ave., St. Paul

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Neighbors from 2

Theatre and Dance will open its 87th season with "Sweet Charity," directed by Natalie Novacek.

"Sweet Charity" opens Friday, Nov. 10, at 7:30 p.m. and will run Nov. 11, 16, 17 and 18 at 7:30 p.m. at Hamline University's Anne Simley Theatre. Advance reservations are recommended and can be made through the Hamline University Theatre Box Office at 651-523-2905 or via e-mail at tickets@hamline.edu.

Music in the Park Series presents Dover Quartet

The Schubert Club's Music in the Park Series will present the Dover Quartet with David Shifrin, clarinetist, Sunday, Nov. 12, at 4 p.m. at the St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ, 2129 Commonwealth Ave.

The Dover Quartet has become one of the most in-demand ensembles in the world. The Dover's debut disc pays tribute to the renowned Guarneri Quartet, whose members served as mentors for the ensemble.

Beginning their "mostly American" program with quartets by Richard Danielpour and Bartok, the Dover will be joined by clarinetist David Shifrin to perform works for clarinet and string quartet by

Corigliano and young American composer Chris Rogerson, along with arrangements of Duke Ellington tunes.

To buy tickets, call 651-292-3267 or go to schubert.org.

The theology of Prince

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Minneapolis, located in Prospect Park, will host the Rev. Christian Piatt for "Justice, Renewal, and the Theology of Prince" Saturday, Nov. 11, 2-9 p.m. at Surly Brewing Co., 520 S.E. Malcolm Ave., Minneapolis.

The presentation is part of the church's annual conference series "Voices: Addressing Issues That Affect the Church and Wider Community."

Information about the conference can be found at www.fccminneapolis.org/home/voices.

Cost for the event is \$40 and includes a copy of Piatt's latest book, "Surviving the Bible."

Annual Yunomi Invitational at Raymond Avenue Gallery

The Raymond Avenue Gallery, 761 Raymond Ave., will host its fourth-annual Yunomi Invitational Friday, Nov. 17, to Saturday, Dec. 16. An

opening reception will be held Nov. 17, 6-8 p.m. Gallery hours are Monday to Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturdays, Nov. 18, Dec. 2 and Dec. 16, noon-4 p.m. The yunomis are Japanese-style tea bowls without handles.

Rose Ensemble explores musical legacy of the Reformation

The Friends of the St. Paul Public Library will present a free discussion and demonstration with the Rose Ensemble, featuring music from their upcoming concert, "Welcome the People: The Musical Legacy of the Reformation," on Saturday, Nov. 4, 2 p.m., at St. Anthony Park Library, 2245 Como Ave. The program is free and open to the public.

Calling artists, makers, historians

The Smallest Museum in St. Paul, 2399 W. University Ave., invites artists, makers and historians to apply to curate the micro-museum in one-month increments in 2018. The Smallest Museum in St. Paul offers a platform to engage and delight customers, Green Line commuters and pedestrian traffic along University Avenue.

The deadline for applying is Monday, Nov. 6, for exhibits in January through June 2018.

Find out more at smallestmuseumstpaul.com/smsp-artists-apply-here/

Community  Worship Directory

❖ **LYDIA PLACE COLLABORATIVE COMMUNITIES—ELCA**

Rev. Scott Simmons, pastor, 612-859-1134, lydiaplace.com
Hymntap beer and hymns, fourth Monday of each month
7 p.m. Dubliner Pub, 2162 W. University Ave. 55114
Sunday worship: 5 p.m., Dow Art Gallery,
2242 W. University Ave., St. Paul

❖ **MOUNT OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH—WELS**

A Caring Family of Christ-Centered Believers
www.mount-olive-lutheran-church.org
Find us on Facebook
1460 Almond Ave., St. Paul, MN 55108
651-645-2575
Sunday worship: 9 a.m.
Bible study and Sunday school, 10:30 a.m.
Pastor Al Schleusener

❖ **PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH—ELCA**

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

❖ **ST. CECILIA'S CATHOLIC CHURCH**

2357 Bayless Place, 651-644-4502
www.stceciliasp.org
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Sunday Masses: 8:15 a.m. and 10 a.m.

❖ **HOLY CHILDHOOD CATHOLIC CHURCH**

1435 Midway Parkway, St. Paul, 55108
Pastor: Fr. Timothy Cloutier
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Weekday Masses (Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday): 7:45 a.m.
Confession: Saturday 7 - 7:30 a.m. & 4 - 4:30 p.m.
Parish office: 651-644-7495, mcmadigan@holychildhoodparish.org

❖ **CATALYST COVENANT CHURCH**

You are more than welcome to join us at Catalyst Covenant Church. We meet Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. at 1490 Fulham St. For additional information on other activities and events, visit us at www.catalystcovenant.org or email us at info@catalystcovenant.org

❖ **ST. ANTHONY PARK UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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Wednesday Community Dinner: 5-6:30 p.m. (free-will offering)
Choir School every Wednesday (Babies through Grade 6) call for times
Youth Choir (Grade 7-12) 5:30-6:15 p.m.
Adult Choir 7:30-9 p.m.

❖ **ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

The Rev. Blair A. Pogue, Rector, 2136 Carter at Chelmsford
651-645-3058, www.stmatthewsmn.org
Hours: 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m., Tuesday - Friday
Sundays: 10:30 a.m. (Liturgical with Communion), 5:30 p.m. (Contemplative)
6:30 p.m. Dinner
Education for all ages on Sunday at 9:15 a.m.
Wednesday Eucharist & Lunch at 12 p.m.
Sunday, November 5 All Saints Day DIXIELAND JAZZ
EUCCHARIST at 10:30 a.m.
Festive Reception with Dancing and Music at 11:30 a.m.
Sunday, December 3 Dinner Church at 5:30 p.m.,
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LIVES LIVED

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

John Bailey

John L. Bailey, 76, resident of Seal Hi-Rise in St. Anthony Park for 21 years, died Oct. 10, 2017.

He was born Sept. 17, 1941, and was raised in Tombstone, Ariz.

He left home at age 18 and took to the road, working in restaurants as a cook, as an orderly in hospitals and also as an ambulance driver. He never stopped more than a couple of years in one place.

He landed in the Twin Cities in 1983, and due to disability, he stayed. John cultivated his many talents, including painting, singing and playing piano. He had a beautiful voice. He loved Bingo and playing "Texas Holdem" with his friends at Seal Hi-Rise, where he will be truly missed.

Thomas Black

Thomas J. Black, 60, of Como Park, beloved brother, uncle and friend, has died. A memorial service was held Oct. 16 at Como Park Lutheran Church, with interment at Union Cemetery in Maplewood.

Betty Ann Burch

Betty Ann Burch, 92, died Oct. 6, 2017. She was born in East Chicago, Indiana, on Nov. 7, 1924. She lived in St. Anthony Park and Como Park for many years.

Betty Ann attended Purdue University and graduated from Calumet College with a bachelor's degree in English in 1964. She received her master's in English from De Paul University in 1967 and completed her doctorate in American Studies at the University of Minnesota in 1973. Betty Ann taught literature and writing at St. Joseph's College in Whiting, Ind.; St. Francis College in Biddeford, Maine; and at Northland College in Ashland, Wis. She held several positions at the Minnesota Legislature from 1980 to 1988.

Betty Ann enjoyed travel, especially to England and Iceland. She enjoyed the theater, drawing and printmaking. She did freelance writing as a theater critic for Skyway News, had her poems published in professional journals, and her 1973 study, "The Assimilation Experience of Five American White Ethnic Novelists of the Twentieth Century," is being re-released this very October.

She was preceded in death by her sister, Margaret, and brother-in-law, Mike Kelly. She is survived by two nephews and three nieces, as well as by great- and great-great-nephews and nieces.

Jack Imbertson

Jack Ramon Imbertson, 97, of St. Anthony Park, died Sept. 26, 2017. He was born April 15, 1921, in Hibbing, Minn. He was married to his wife, Mildred, for 72 years.

He attended junior college in Hibbing, then graduated from the University of Minnesota with a

degree in electrical engineering. He then went to work at Electric Machinery, where he managed the synchronous motor and generator design team. He worked there for 42 years.

Jack designed equipment that has been deployed globally for utilities and municipalities, including the top of the World Trade Center in New York City. He designed the generator in the St. Anthony Falls power plant, as well as the pump that provides drinking water for St. Paul.

He was an industry leader involved in a national standards committee. He was a registered professional engineer and a lifetime senior member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Inc.

Jack had many hobbies, including canoeing, camping, photography and bike riding. He often would take his children on river-canoeing trips and to the BWCA.

He lived in St. Anthony Park for 60 years. He loved walking to the library, bank and Speedy Market and, recently, the Knoke's candy store. He was an active member of the St. Anthony Park Library Book Club. In later years, when attendance became difficult and it was increasingly difficult for him to hear speakers, Carla Foley, the librarian at that time, got the books to him and Jack wrote a report for the other members to use for discussion.

He loved to travel and was able to travel to Norway to visit the family farm and the birthplace of his father.

He was an only child and is survived by his wife, Mildred; eight children, Mary (Dan) Yavner, Mark (Cynthia), Jim (Sheila Gibson), Paul (Linda), Tom, Tamara (Kevin Jagielski), Nancy (Paul), Langton and Jon (Michelle Taylor); 12 great-grandchildren; and eight great-great grandchildren.

A memorial service was held at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church on Oct. 5. Memorials, if desired, are preferred to the church.

Sylvia Johnson

Sylvia R. Johnson, 93, of Falcon Heights, died Sept. 27, 2017. She was preceded in death by her husband, Edward, and sister, Mary Cannons.

She is survived by her children, Cheryl (Michael) Goudy, Susan (Jerry) Benson and Craig; six grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and siblings, Elisabeth Thomas, Nils Donald Ylvisaker and Shirley Bunde.

Her life was celebrated Oct. 6 at St. Timothy Lutheran Church, with interment at Fort Snelling National Cemetery.

Dorothy Ronchak

Dorothy J. Ronchak, 65, of Falcon Heights, died of pancreatic cancer Sept. 10, 2017, surrounded by her family in her home.

She was preceded in death by her parents, David and Lucille Funkhouser. She is survived by her husband, Ron; children, Jeanne, Daniel, William and Stephen (Jennifer); siblings, Lucy Oswald, Robert Funkhouser (Linda), Mary Haus, Gladys Ackermann (Karl), George Funkhouser (Teresa) and Jane Nelson (Dale).

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Sept. 15 at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, with interment at Roselawn Cemetery.

Margaret Snyder

Margaret M. Snyder, 94, of St. Anthony Park, died Sept. 8, 2017.

Margaret grew up in San Bernardino, Calif., and graduated from the University of California-Berkeley. She and her husband, Leon, moved to St. Anthony Park in 1954. Margaret worked for Ramsey County Social Services for 20 years. She enjoyed gardening, cooking and music, especially the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra.

She was preceded in death by her husband; brother, George Jr.; and sister, Patricia. Margaret is survived

by her daughter, Patricia, and son, Mark, both of St. Anthony Park.

A gathering is being planned for a later date.

Paul Torren

Paul Edward Torren, 94, died Oct. 7, 2017. He was born in Lincoln, Neb., and was a World War II Army veteran, where he served as an officer and field artillery liaison pilot stationed in Zamboanga, Philippine Islands, and Japan.

He received a doctorate in analytical chemistry at the University of Minnesota. The majority of his career was spent as a research chemist at 3M.

Paul was a partner to his wife and was devoted to their kids, his Episcopal Church, conservation and singing in choirs dedicated to sacred choral music.

Paul is survived by his wife of 35 years, Barbara; children Nancy, John (Hilary), Richard (Rhonda), Shannon (Scott), Jonathan (LeAnne), Stephen (Lisa), Deanna McPherson and James Brown (Joan); seven grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held Oct. 14 at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church.

Donald Williams

Donald (Don) Paul Williams, 60, of Evergreen, Colo., died Sept. 27, 2017, of cancer.

Don was born in Denver and raised in St. Anthony Park, the son of William and Beryle Lou Williams. He graduated from Murray High School in 1975 and received a bachelor's degree in psychology from Hamline University in 1980.

Don worked for many years with troubled children at Forest

Heights Lodge in Evergreen, Col., and was a teacher of music, math, social studies, English and physical education at several Evergreen and North and South Routt schools, receiving a Teacher of the Year Award for 2016-17.

Don was preceded in death by his father, William. He is survived by his mother, Beryle (Bea); his partner, Din; and her sons, Isaac and Wyatt Manobla; his daughter, Jessica Williams; his brother, Michael Williams (Sally), of Phippsburg, Colo.; his sister, Blythe Williams (Richard Kay), of Durham, N.C.; and his brother, Jeffrey Williams (Lisa Conley), of Seattle.

A celebration of Don's life will be held Nov. 11.

Ed Zottola

Edmund Anthony Zottola, 85, died Oct. 4, 2017. He was living in Cook, Minn., but had been a longtime resident of St. Anthony Park while teaching in the Food Science Dept. at the University of Minnesota.

Ed was born in Gilroy, Calif., the son of first-generation Italian immigrants, Palmer and Teresa Zottola. Ed's first job was working in his father's dairy, turning rounds of cheese in the aging room. He later drove the milk-delivery truck around Grants Pass, Ore.

Ed graduated from Oregon State University (OSU) in 1954 with a degree in food science. He went on to get his master's degree in food science at OSU in 1958, writing his dissertation about butter. Ed then moved to the Twin Cities to pursue his doctorate at the University of Minnesota, which he received in 1964.

Lives Lived to 20

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Lives lived from 19

In 1959, he met Marsha at Lake Nokomis in Minneapolis. They married in April 1960. They made their home in St. Anthony Park and raised their four children there. They were members of St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church.

They made frequent trips to their cabin on Lake Vermilion, where they moved after Ed retired. In Cook, they attended Trinity Lutheran Church. Ed was also a member of the Cook Lions Club, Northwoods Friends of the Arts and the Lake Vermilion Sportsman's Club.

During his 31 years at the U, Ed worked at the Extension Service before becoming a full professor of food microbiology in the Department of Food Science and Nutrition. He created a series of courses on home-canning for the Extension service that is still in use today. He also created a program of

farmstead cheese after studying cheese-making processes in Europe. One farm, Eichten's Cheese & Bison, is still producing Gouda cheese with techniques they learned through this program.

Ed, known as Dr. Z to his students, mentored and graduated more than 45 post-baccalaureate students, 30 master's and 15 doctoral candidates in his tenure.

Dr. Z retired in 1998, but continued to travel and do consulting work. He was recognized as one of the foremost authorities on home canning, sanitation in food production and cheese-making.

Dr. Z was a prolific writer, publishing books and dozens of scientific articles alone and with colleagues and students. In 2008, he wrote and published "Willie Walleye," an award-winning children's book based on stories told to his grandchildren. In his later

years, he wrote a popular column in the Cook News Herald titled "Ramblings From an Old Professor."

He was preceded in death by his parents, Palmer and Teresa; in-laws, Paul and Lucille Olson; sister-in-law, Barbara Bergman; and brother-in-law, Irvin Ole Swanson. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Marsha; sons, Joseph and Josh; daughters, Sarah (Michael) Masoni and Theresa Zottola Drift; six grandchildren; brothers, Palmer (Millie) and Ernie (Diana); and sister, Teresa (Richard) Miller.

A memorial service was held Oct. 21 at Trinity Lutheran Church. The family asks that memorials be directed to the Alzheimer's Association Minnesota-North Dakota, alz.org/mnnd or the American Cheese Society's ACE Foundation, cheesesociety.org/ace-foundation.

Witnesses from 3

and light, but it's so important that it not be a magical Neverland. It has to speak to the reality that we know and live."

The most important thing he hopes visitors will take from his work is surprise "that God is at work in their lives," Berg-Moberg says. He cites the Parable of the Leaven from the Gospel of St. Luke (13:20-21) in

which Christ compares the Kingdom of Heaven to the leaven that the woman mixed throughout the flour. "Jesus was not being metaphorical," he says. "I'm hoping [viewers] will be able to think of a name of someone in their lives and say, 'There it is. That person was the leaven in my life.'"

"A Cloud of Witnesses" will be installed in the nave of St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, where it will occupy almost half of the worship space. It will be fully mounted for the

congregation to see on Sunday, Nov. 5, and open to the public beginning the evening of Thursday, Nov. 9, and continuing during daylight hours through the end of the month.

Does Berg-Moberg have plans for more art projects in the future? "Probably not. I haven't had any more dreams," he says.

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

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2017 / 12PM



School News

We welcome news about area schools and students in our coverage area. Send your news about local schools and students to editor@parkbugle.org. The next deadline is Wednesday, Nov. 8.

Chelsea Heights Elementary

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

Annual food drive to benefit Neighborhood House

Chelsea Heights' annual food drive "Chelsea Heights Students help BAG hunger" will begin Monday, Nov. 6, and run through Monday, Nov. 27. Students and the school community will collect nonperishable goods and toiletries for Neighborhood House, an organization that has been working with refugees and immigrants in St. Paul since 1897. Each year the food drive helps bring in more than 2,000 pounds of goods. Community members may drop off items in the school office between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Easy fundraisers

Here's the list of "no-work" fundraisers for Chelsea Heights in November. Just head to the participating establishments, tell them you are participating in the Chelsea Heights fundraiser, and a portion of the money you spend will be donated to the school:

Thursday, Nov. 9, St. Paul Bagelry, 1702 N. Lexington Ave., 7 a.m.-3 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 10, Saints North Roller Rink, 1818 Gervais Court, Maplewood 5:15-7:15 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 19, Urban Growler, 2325 Endicott St., noon-3 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 21, PTO meeting, 6-7:30 p.m.

Como Park Senior High

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

AOF teacher honored

The Minnesota Council on Economic Education (MCEE) gave the 2017 Personal Finance Leadership Award to Como Academy of Finance (AOF) coordinator and teacher Kris Somerville for her commitment to personal finance education and professional growth. Thrivent Financial supports the annual award. Somerville will be honored at the MCEE's EconFest celebration Thursday, Nov. 2, at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum in Chaska, where she will also receive a \$1,000 check as part of the award.

An award-winning essay

Como senior Keleenah Yang wrote an award-winning essay in a statewide contest sponsored by the BestPrep Program. Keleenah presented her essay at the BestPrep Educational Forum on Oct. 24 at the St. Paul RiverCentre. The event's

keynote speaker was retired Minnesota Supreme Court Justice Alan Page.

Yang's essay was based on Justice Page's theme of "Tomorrow's Leaders" and the prompt was "Why Character Matters." Yang met with Justice Page at a reception prior to the evening program. BestPrep has a 40-year history of support and programming as a non-profit organization with a mission to prepare students with business, career and financial literacy skills through hands-on experiences that inspire success in work and life.

ELL students raise money for families in Mogadishu

Level 2 and 3 ELL students at Como collected \$480 in relief money for victimized families of the Oct. 14 bombings in Mogadishu. Hussein Mohamed, a former Como ELL student, who now provides educational support at Como through the Sanneh Foundation, will be wiring the money directly to an aid agency in Somalia. Many Como students had family members directly impacted by the bombing. The outpouring of support from all students, regardless of religion or race, was inspirational.

"No matter how bleak the world looks some days, we teachers are so fortunate to be surrounded by such great examples of what it really means to be human," said ELL teacher Suzanne Susens.

Students to serve as election judges

A dozen Como seniors in AP Government and Politics classes will be serving as Ramsey County election judges in the Nov. 7 election. The service to the community is an opportunity to promote the democratic process and ensure fairness in the administration of elections. Students received training from Ramsey County officials at Como in October and were assigned to their local precincts along with a team of judges.

Fall musical is Nov. 9 and 10

Como's Theatre and Music Department will present the annual fall musical in the Como Auditorium on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 9 and 10, at 7 p.m. This year's show is "Monte Cristo," a modern adaptation of the classic novel set in an English class film competition during a school lockdown. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$5 for students, and can be purchased at the door.

Give to the max in November

Give to the Max is back and will run from Nov. 1 to 16. The Como Park Booster Club is encouraging the community to boost the wide array of extracurricular activities, athletics and clubs that expand student opportunities and experiences at Como by giving generously at givemn.org/organization/comoparkboosterclub.

Thanks to previous donations, the Booster Club has supported a

variety of activities in the last year, including 19 grants to the school band, Technovation Apps Club, ELL, boys' soccer, Soccer Stars, Dare2BeReal advisors, student council, AVID, choir, Big Brother Big Sister, the Cougar Journal, girls' soccer, culinary arts, the health office, counseling, prom and the senior class barbecue.

Murray Middle School

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

Tutors are needed at Murray

Murray Middle School offers a comprehensive tutoring and study-skills support program called the Murray Pilot One-on-One Tutoring Program. This 11-year-old program is offered during the school day as an elective class Monday through Friday during the last three class periods of the day, from 11:08 a.m.-12:08 p.m., 12:12-1:04 p.m. and 1:08-2 p.m.

Tutor volunteers are asked to participate in a 90-minute training and orientation session. A training session can be scheduled most days at 8 a.m. or 2:30 p.m. upon request.

Contact Cindy Thrasher, coordinator, for more information, cindy.thrasher@spps.org or 651-293-8740.

St. Anthony Park Elementary

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

St. Anthony Park news

Thanks to all the Fall Festival donors. Parent-teacher conferences will be held Wednesday-Friday, Nov. 15-17, at the school.

St. Anthony Park Elementary School principal Dr. Karen Duke, former principal Ann Johnson and second-grade teacher Ruth Krider are heading to Washington, D.C., to collect St. Anthony Park's Blue Ribbon Award. See the story at right.



St. Anthony Park Elementary School greeted students with positive messages the first week of school in September. Turns out, they really are awesome. Bugle photo

A blue ribbon!

St. Anthony Park Elementary School is one of eight Minnesota schools that were awarded the prestigious Blue Ribbon recognition by the U.S. Department of Education in late September.

The award annually recognizes outstanding public and nonpublic schools throughout the country for excellence in overall achievement and in reducing the achievement gap between white students and students of color.

In November, St. Anthony Park Principal Karen Duke, and recently retired principal, Ann Johnson, will travel to Washington, D.C., to accept a plaque and banner to display in the school.

In a letter to school families, Duke said, "This award is really for our staff and for all of you, who do so much to support the excellent programs here at St. Anthony Park.

Every teacher, parent, family member, community member and student contributes every day to this thriving, dynamic learning community. Thank you for all you do, and congratulations."

The other Minnesota schools that were recognized are Hoover Elementary, Mankato Public School District; Lake Marion Elementary, Lakeville Public School District; Woodland Elementary School, Alexandria Public School District; Gordon Bailey Elementary, South Washington County School District; Washington Elementary, Rochester Public School District; Wilshire Park Elementary, St. Anthony-New Brighton Schools; and Oakwood Elementary, Wayzata Public School District.

Learn more about the program at www.ed.gov/nationalblueribbon-schools.

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

Cougars earn home play-off games and chance to use new field

Como's state-of-the-art synthetic turf field was scheduled to be completed and ready for use by Aug. 18. The Como football and soccer teams had planned to practice and play games on the new surface all season. The students were stoked.

But construction stalled over the summer, and the fall sports season began instead with a huge pile of dirt inside the track where the field was to be installed. The school district's project managers said the field would not be ready until the second week of October.

"It was disappointing and a letdown," said senior football player Donnie Ventrelli.

"We had dreams of playing our senior year at home and finally having a home-field advantage," added senior lineman Jay Viar Johnson.

Time to execute Plan B.

For the Cougars' football team, Plan B involved practicing at the Murray Middle School soccer field, which was available through Sept. 11, when the Pilots' soccer teams would use the space. While coaches and players were grateful for some green grass, hauling 45 players, pads, water jugs and equipment on a bus 4 miles down Como Avenue (which is under construction) to a field with no football lines was administratively challenging.

Coach Kirby Scull described it as less than ideal. "However, compared to what we had to do next, Murray was better because at Murray we could at least store the tackling dummies and larger equipment in the shed there," Scull said.

When Sept. 11 came and the Cougars were displaced from

Murray, they relocated their practice sessions to park space in front of Rice Street Recreation Center.

"The field conditions were worse," Scull said. "There isn't a lot of grass and it was even more of a challenge with equipment because there was no storage over there, so we were hauling everything back and forth from school every day," Scull said.

One day, as the coaches were unloading the tackling dummies from the back of Scull's pick-up truck, they realized one was missing.

During practice, some of the players noticed a man walking down the street carrying the large, recognizable item. Assistant coach Nick Vruno proceeded down an alley and found the man in his backyard, grilling with his son—and the lost tackling dummy resting against the garage.

The homeowner explained that he found it in the intersection of Rice Street and Maryland Avenue. Apparently, that was the turn where the tackling dummy fell out of Scull's truck.

Vruno had a nice conversation with the gentleman, who returned the football equipment to its rightful owners. The team showed its gratitude by giving him a Cougars football T-shirt the next day. Like many other times in their unusual season, the Cougars made the best of their situation.

The Cougars continued to play their "home" games at rival school sites, primarily Griffin Stadium at Central High School. That was definitely not the plan last spring when the team was featured in a groundbreaking ceremony for the home turf. The unexpected,



Como football players gather around the Cougar logo on the new field. The team hosted its first varsity on-campus football game in school history in a playoff Oct. 28. Photo by Mike Krivit

nomadic nature of the season could have cast a net of negativity over the program; the Cougars' senior leaders could have been bitter. They weren't. They just went to work with the goal of getting better every day.

The maturity, leadership and talent of a strong senior class carried the Cougars to a regular season record of 6-2, Como's best mark since 2007. Robert Adams, Gunnar Olson, Tim Simmons, Will Wooten, Lumin Johnson, Patrick Corniea, Roberto Urbina, Jonathan Ortiz, Kaspian Menne, Sam Cojolo, Donnie Ventrelli and Jay Viar Johnson form a core, contributing key roles on both sides of the ball.

Scull proudly credits the special group of seniors for this season's success.

"I'm impressed with the way they've handled adversity on and off

the field," Scull said. "I've tried to live in the moment enjoying the time coaching them. I'm grateful for all their commitment and dedication."

With an uncertain timeline, the team still held out hope for playing the Oct. 7 homecoming game at home, on the new field. It didn't happen.

However, Como's winning record put the team in position to receive a high seed for the Class 4A, Section 4 playoffs, which would mean hosting a game on the new field. If the team finished with strong results, the seniors could play one game on the turf.

As the Bugle went to press, the students were once again stoked. The Cougars earned the No. 1 seed in their section, and the right to host a semi-final game on Saturday, Oct. 28, and the opportunity for the seniors to leave Como with a positive connection to the new field they'll eventually return to as alumni.

playing on a reliable, new, full-sized turf field similar to their opponents' venues was promising. The construction delays were frustrating, but the boys' and girls' varsity teams reverted to the routines of every previous season by sharing the small, sometimes swampy grass field east of the building.

The Como soccer girls started to compile quality wins against Section 4A opponents, who they would be pitted against in the playoffs. Confidence increased and the goals kept coming. The Cougars set a school record for goals scored while posting 11 shutouts during the regular season and compiling a record of 13-3.

Those results provided the team with a home play-off game on Oct. 10. It could be played on the new turf if last-minute preparations could be completed. Goals and player benches were brought in a couple of hours before game time and the first Como athletic contest on the dreamy surface brought out many smiles.

First game on the new turf

For the soccer teams, the prospect of

Como sports to 24

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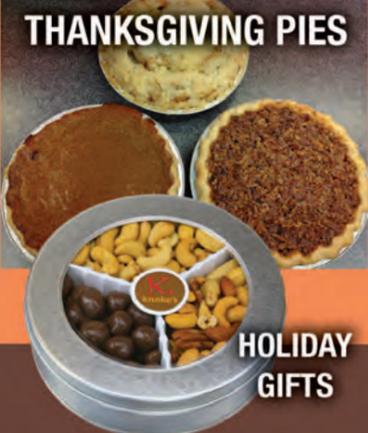
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The Como girls' soccer team defeated Johnson in the section playoffs Oct. 10 in the first-ever game on the new turf. The Cougars compiled an overall record of 15-4 this season. *Photo by Eric Erickson*

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Como sports from 22

A convincing victory over Johnson was a perfect opening event. "It was empowering to know we made history," said senior captain Emily Forstrom. The team made more history by reaching the section semi-finals for the first time since 2006 before falling to highly ranked Mahtomedi.

The boys' soccer team had a grueling schedule with challenging competition in the St. Paul City Conference, but still earned a high seed, (No. 4 in Section 4A), which

meant they'd host a quarter-final section match on the turf two days after the girls.

With the facility already tested, the eager senior boys finally got their chance to shine on the new stage. They won the quarter-final match against Hmong Academy 4-0.

"It was magical, every step I took," Saw Johnny said. "There's going to be historical moments there, so it was special to be able to play that game there. There was excitement on everyone's faces."

As usual, the excitement around Como boys' soccer peaks during the last half of October. The Cougars followed up their home win by going out to Mahtomedi and defeating the top seed 2-1 in the semi-finals. That set up an all-St. Paul section final against city rival Harding, the No. 3 seed, in the Knights' stadium on Thursday evening of the MEA fall

break.

While the result didn't go the Cougars' way, the team's improvement throughout the season was noteworthy. The effort put forth to reach a section championship game and attain a runner-up trophy was another accomplishment for a successful program.

Fall 2017 certainly revealed the resilience and perseverance of the Como athletic teams, students, coaches and school community. With new facilities now in place to serve Como students and families for years to come, the pride in how our kids play is accompanied by pride in where they play.

Eric Erickson is a social studies teacher at Como Park Senior High School and a longtime coach of school and youth sports in St. Paul. Follow twitter @eestp for current school sports news.

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Ad blocks are sold first-come first-serve, so contact your sales representative now:

Bradley Wolfe: 952-393-6814 or bradley.wolfe@parkbugle.org.

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The space reservation deadline for the Shopping Guide is Wednesday, Nov. 8.