Carter Avenue Frame Shop changes hands

On March 2, Tim Smith and his son Michael shared a birthday celebration.

The senior Smith, who turned 60 that day, completed the sale of the Carter Avenue Frame Shop, a custom picture framing and art gallery business, to son Michael, who turned 30.

In 1985, during his senior year at Lutheran Seminary, the elder senior bought Carter Avenue Frame Shop with Tom Lind, owner of The Framing Place and Gallery in Roseville. The 350-square-foot Carter Avenue Frame Shop was originally located in a basement off the parking lot of Milton Square. Smith bought out Lind in 1989.

“I worked part time for Tom during seminary and found I was good at sales, design and working with my hands, which was a surprise having never taken any shop, art or business classes in school,” Tom Smith said in a press statement. “I was a math and science kid in high school and studied psychology and philosophy in college.

“Tom invited me to buy the business with him during my senior year. I’m probably the only fram er in the country with a Master of Divinity degree.”

Carter Avenue Frame Shop has grown over the years, and has won several awards, including “Best Frame Shop” by Minnesota Monthly. Since 1994, the 1,800-square-foot shop has served the greater community at its current location in a stand-alone building at 2186 Como Ave.

Michael began working at Carter Avenue Frame Shop in 2016, then became a 25 percent owner a year later. Michael studied criminology at the University of Minnesota-Duluth and worked for Hammer Inc., a non-profit housing and service organization that provides support to individuals with disabilities. He recently moved back to St. Anthony Park, where he bought his first house.

“I never imagined spending so much time with my dad, but we’ve gotten along great,” Michael said in a press statement. “I can’t imagine a better way to learn what I need to continue this business to the standard that Tim has set.

“I love working with customers and making their art look great with good design and framing. I’m hoping to continue my dad’s legacy at Carter Avenue Frame Shop.”

Meanwhile, Tim is working at the frame shop as an employee.

—Scott Carlson

St. Paul says no EAW needed on former St. Andrew’s Church plans

By Scott Carlson

The Twin Cities German Immersion School’s plans to raze its current building — the old St. Andrew’s Church — and replace it with a new 24,000-square-foot facility do not merit an environmental impact review, according to the St. Paul Department of Planning and Economic Development.

The city’s decision to reject a request for an environmental assessment worksheet (EAW) of the German Immersion School’s expansion plans is a setback for the neighborhood group, Save Historic St. Andrew’s (SHSA), which argues the former church is a historic structure and should be spared from the wrecking ball.

In a report dated April 9, PED director Bruce Corrie said the German school’s proposed addition did not meet the state’s mandatory standards for EAW reviews and “the proposed project does not have the potential for significant environmental effects.” Corrie added, “No additional environmental studies are planned nor needed to evaluate environmental effect of the proposed project.”

The EAW petition was “an abuse of the public governance process and a complete waste of taxpayer’s dollars,” contended Sam

Church plans to 13

The Bielenberg story one man’s love of books

By Dave Healy

“Books are the treasured wealth of the world and the finer inheritance of generations and nations.” — Henry David Thoreau

If books are the wealth of the world, Tom Bielenberg is a rich man, and he’s made many others richer as well.


In 2003, with Ruminator co-worker Hans Weyandt, Bielenberg bought Micawber’s from its founder, Norton Stillman. Weyandt left in 2013, since then Micawber’s has been a one-man operation. And in April, Micawber’s closed permanently, following severe injuries Bielenberg suffered in a March fall.

Bielenberg didn’t set out to be a bookseller.

In 1975, while a graduate student in journalism at the University of Minnesota, he took a class in the history of books. He was drawn to the study of books because of a fascination with the craft of bookbinding.

— Scott Carlson

The Bielenberg to 13
By Anne Holzman

A year ago, the city of Lauderdale building and site from the Chinese teachers and students gathered to organize last year’s tour and offered her home as an informal depository of memorabilia for the reunion. Now, as Lauderdale prepares to sell the property for development, Lerfald is compiling stories and photos, hoping to turn them into a book about the school.

For the 2018 tour, Lerfald recruited 10 tour guides and arranged for a “school lunch” that families could enjoy in the company of a former teacher. Lerfald estimated “over 240 people” attended the tour.

Former Lauderdale School teacher Kay Storgatz displayed a quilt given to her as a retirement gift, with class photos from every year printed on the fabric. “It was really popular,” Lerfald said. Now, Lerfald (who attended the school in 1952-59) has a pile of old class photos, report cards, news clippings, and other memorabilia. She plans to produce a history of Lauderdale School, drawing on her experience of self-publishing family history books.

Shortly after the 2018 tour, Lerfald wrote an article about the school for a newsletter for retired Roseville teachers. According to the article, Lauderdale School was annexed by Roseville schools in 1949. (That is also the year that Lauderdale was incorporated as a city.) Some of the teachers who lost their classrooms when the school closed in 1974 transferred to other Roseville schools.

As a result of that transfer, Lerfald said, the teacher network has stayed intact, and that has been integral in spreading the word about her history project. “It was surprising how many teachers came and participated (in the tour),” Lerfald said. “It was great!” Lerfald said the very earliest students in the area attended the Gibbs school, which is now part of the nearby Gibbs Farm Museum historic site. A one-room schoolhouse was built in 1894 at Spring and Eustis streets on land owned by William Henry Lauderdale. The city would eventually be named after him.

The existing building began as a two-room structure on the same site in 1915, with additions in 1922 on the north side and in 1937 on the south side of the original building. Lerfald said she hopes more students, teachers, and other people with memories of the school will get in touch with her and contribute to her book. There is a Lauderdale School MN Facebook page with more information. Memorabilia and contact information can also be submitted to staff at Lauderdale City Hall.

City Administrator Heather Buskow said in early April that she anticipated a mid-May public hearing on the senior housing proposal for the site. 
Diet for a changing planet

By Kit Canright

Buy less. Eat less meat. Use what you have.

These three rules, if widely followed, could substantially reduce human-caused greenhouse gas emissions.


Reduce food waste

One-third of the food raised in the United States goes to waste, mostly after it gets to market, thrown away by stores or in our homes. (By contrast, in developing countries most waste occurs before food gets to market, due to infrastructure issues.) So how can we reduce our food waste at home?

• Buy less. Be realistic about what you’ll actually use. (And buy a smaller refrigerator next time.)
• Keep a list on the fridge door of foods that need to be used.
• Plan the week’s meals ahead. If your plans change, freeze what you can and eat the perishables.
• Freeze extra quantities. Think beyond baked goods: even a half-can of tomato paste can be frozen in dollops on a pan, then bagged.
• Use as much of each food as you can. Many vegetable skins are edible (carrots, potatoes, some squashes), containing both nutrients and fiber. Radish tops are delicious in salads or stir-fried.
• Compost what’s left, either in your own bin or through organics recycling. Take vegetable and animal scraps, including bones, to Ramsey County’s Pierce Butler yard waste site or the 24-hour organics bin by the Humane Society on Beulah Lane off of Jessamine Ave.

Eat a plant-rich diet

Beef has a massive footprint: a weekly five-ounce steak, over the course of a year, adds 736 pounds of carbon dioxide to the atmosphere. But even switching from beef to chicken (141 pounds) or pork (150 pounds) is a big carbon savings. (Data from a 2017 Washington Post article based on work at the University of Minnesota.)

So, do we all need to go vegan, live in solar-heated yurts, and walk to school through the snow in our Birkenstocks? No, but we can be more mindful. Use meat sparingly, mostly as a condiment: Try roasted cauliflower tossed with sautéed bacon and rosemary, served over whole grains. When you do cook meat, use all of it. Simmer leftover chicken bones and skin with chopped onions, carrots, and celery for a couple hours. Voilà! A rich broth that beats anything you can buy at the store—intense flavor without any salt.

During World War II, the government promoted victory gardens and waste-free habits to meet a war goal. We have a new battle today. If we all do our part, we can have a major impact.

Kit Canright coordinates sustainable food projects for Transition Town ASAP and serves as a section leader for the St. Anthony Park Community Garden. She is also a math teacher and choral singer.

The “Food-print” Pyramid: In a switch from the USDA food pyramid, this one shows the ecological impact of our food choices. Foods lower on this pyramid burn less fossil fuel in growing and distribution, use less water, and employ more sustainable agricultural practices (the earth’s ability to regenerate resources and absorb emissions). Post this guide in your kitchen and consider carbon when choosing what to eat.
COMMENARY

Defending the Twin Cities German Immersion School plans

By Ronald Okenosius

I write this commentary in response to the recent op-ed pieces in the Bugle regarding Save Historic St. Andrew’s (SHSA) ongoing efforts to prevent the Twin Cities German Immersion School (TCGIS) from constructing a properly designed renovation for its students, faculty and staff.

The ongoing efforts of “Save Historic St. Andrew’s” have nothing to do with historic preservation but rather the weaponization of City processes and procedures to prevent the campus improvement initiative of the Twin Spots where you can pick up a Bugle.

Attacks on the Immersion School building plans should be seen for what they are and the City Council should vote accordingly against them.

SHSA actions — I’ll list them below — are not appeals to save a historically significant building. SHSA’s “opinion / editorials” in area newspapers highlight not the historic preservation of the building — they wonder from traffic concerns, to height variances, to the additional sound of new students, to parking and even to the NAACP’s stance against Charter schools.

There are the actions of “not in my backyard” neighbors using a building as an excuse to keep their immediate streets quiet and free of cars and kids. Is that really what we want St. Paul to be? A quiet museum of a neighborhood that never changes with no traffic, no investment, no young families?

Of course not. Vibrant communities, investing in children, top notch schools, creating communities of the future — all this drives quality of life and property values. This is what TCGIS is bringing to St. Paul.

Churches have a role in that vibrancy. But when the parishioners don’t pay for the upkeep and leave for the suburbs, and the architect’s family moves to Florida, do the rest of us really have to pay to keep up their old memories? Eighty percent of SHSA petitioners don’t even live in District 10 anymore. Responsibility for saving St. Andrew’s was clearly the responsibility of the parish — when they owned it. And now it’s time for former parishioners and the neighborhood to move on.

Here is a brief rundown of the other steps SHSA has taken since October 2018:

• Filed a petition for historic designation over the School’s objections and without notifying the school, despite a personal assurance from an SHSA member that notification would be given.
• Filed a lawsuit against the School without notifying the school, (again) despite a personal assurance from an SHSA member that notification would be given.
• Opposed the School’s site plan and variance requests at every committee and commission despite the review and approval of professional City staff with deep experience in planning and zoning.
• Appealed the School’s site plan and variance requests to the City Council.
• Petitioned the state Environmental Review Board to require that an Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) be done about the building plans as another delay tactic.
• Filed two labor-intensive and costly Minnesota Data Privacy Act requests.

And it should be noted that SHSA has not been shy about using its connections in furtherance of these actions:

• Its petition for historic designation was co-authored by the Historic Preservation Commission’s vice chair (now chair)
• A second member of the Historic Preservation Commission voluntarily recused himself because of contact with SHSA
• SHSA members include a former member of the Planning Commission, whose letter of opposition has been repeatedly, specifically, and disproportionately cited by name by current Planning Commission members who oppose the school’s plans.
• It intervened to have a current Planning Commission member who is also a City Councilor vote on the School’s site plan and variance requests.
• It intervened to have the city attorney direct the Planning Commission to vote on the School’s site plan and variance requests.
• I urge the City Council to put an end to this sad state of affairs and allow the school to move forward. As the City Council begins to vote on this issue, it should keep in mind the misuse of City procedures to block TCGIS investment. It is not about the building. We should value the community of the present and the children building our future. We all need to move on.

Ronald Okenosius lives in the Como Park neighborhood.

Deadline, 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:

June issue: The deadline is Monday, May 6, and it will be published Tuesday, May 21.
July issue: The deadline is Monday, June 3, and it will be published Tuesday, June 18
August issue: The deadline is Monday, July 1, and it will be published Tuesday, July 16

Get 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 Carlsten St.
• Finish Erato, 2264 Como Ave.
• Hampden Park Co-op, 928 Raymond Ave.
• Falcon Heights City Hall, 2077 Larpenteur Ave.
• Lauderdale City Hall, 1931 Walnut St.
• Little Wine Shoppe, 2236 Eero Ave.
• Madison City Hall, 2031 Eero Ave.
• Roselawn Library, 2180 Hamline Ave.
• Schneider Drug, 3600 University Ave., Minneapolis
• Speedway Market, 2530 Como Ave.
• St. Anthony Park Library, 2245 Como Ave.
• Urban Garden, 2325 Eero St.
• Workhorse Coffee Bar, 2399 University Ave.

Go to www.parkbugle.org/bugle for a complete list of places that carry the Bugle. You can also read the Bugle online at www.parkbugle.org.

Augsburg’s progressive work went beyond St. Andrew’s design

I support the historic designation of the former St. Andrew’s Catholic Church at 1031 Como Ave. in St. Paul. As a lifelong resident of St. Paul, I collaborate with my church at 1031 Como Ave. as a former member of the Board of Trustees. My church has many other options, such as limiting enrollment (as several other St. Paul schools do), adaptive reuse of the church building, or the possibility of moving to a larger site. There remains an outstanding offer from the Save St. Andrew’s group to meet with TCGIS, U of M architects, and local historians to find an economical compromise.

For the reasons stated above, I ask the City of St. Paul to help the Como/Waterdale community save this historic church building. There is a growing trend to reuse old buildings like this. Fourteen other churches around St. Paul have been successfully adaptive for reuse.

—Jeffrey M. Thole
St. Paul District 10
Bush Fellow, distillery winner, SAP Garden Club and more

Harke awarded Bush Fellowship
The Bush Foundation has awarded one of its 24 fellowships for 2019 to Austin Harke, a transgender and bisexual theologian from St. Paul’s Anthony Park neighborhood. The program provides Fellowships with up to $100,000 over 12 to 24 months to pursue learning experiences that help them develop leadership skills.

Harke “wants more faith communities to be safe and inclusive places for LGBTQ people,” the Foundation said in a news statement. Harke plans to “travel throughout communities to be safe and inclusive places for LGTBQ people,” the program provides Fellowships with up to $100,000 over 12 to 24 months to pursue learning experiences that help them develop leadership skills.

Co-op general manager Chuck Parsons said, “We want to make sure everyone gets an opportunity to see the transformation of our store since the co-op opened.”

Hampden Park Co-op has celebrated Mayfest for more than 30 years. The co-op recently updated its sales floor and expanded its deli menu.

Studio Distilling wins awards
Studio Distilling came away from the recent San Francisco World Spirits Competition with a double victory. The St. Paul-based distillery won double gold honor for its rye malt whiskey and silver honor for its bourbon whiskey.

The overall San Francisco competition drew more than 3,000 contest entries this year. Studio Distilling is located in south St. Anthony Park at 2380 Wycliff Street No. 140.

Korby joins HR Green
HR Green Inc. has named Tim Korby as regional director of its water business line in the firm’s St. Paul office at 2550 W University Ave. “Tim brings over 33 years of experience in the design and implementation of urban and rural infrastructure projects,” the company said.

Pulitzer prize winner speaking at Roseville Library
Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Hedrick Smith, author of “Who Stole the American Dream?” will present his analysis of economic inequality, the gridlock in Washington and grassroots strategies for the future in a talk on April 30 at the Roseville Public Library. 2180 Hamline Ave. N. The free program begins at 3 p.m. and is open to the public.

Jaylani Hussein speaking at SAP Lutheran
Jaylani Hussein, executive director of the Minnesota chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR-MN), will be guest speaker at adult forum 10 a.m. Sunday, April 28 at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, 2523 Comoy Ave. The event is free and open to the public.

Hussein’s family emigrated from Somalia and settled in St. Paul, where he attended St. Anthony Park Dental Care, 2278 Como Avenue

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To add your business to this listing, contact Bradley Wolfe at 952-393-6814 or bradley.wolfe@parkbugle.org

Thank you, Bugle supporters!
As of April 10, the Bugle had received $51,353 in donations for our annual fund drive. Our goal for the 2018-2019 fiscal year is $52,000.

Many thanks to our newest financial supporters:
Grant Abbott and Elaine Tarrone
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A new bandstand for Langford Park?

By Scott Carlson

Would you like a new bandstand for Langford Park?

That’s the question the 4th in the Park Committee will be asking community residents over the next several months. Committee members are Josh Becerra, Jeanne Hansen, Colleen Healy, Maret Lister and Emma Seeley.

During the past few years, the 4th in the Park Committee has been discussing the possibility of building a new bandstand,* the group says on its website (http://www.felanthropark.org/BandstandAndProject.php).

*A new bandstand would provide more space, a place for a screen to project movies, accessibility, water, electricity for amplification and decorative lighting. This would provide a greater array of use,* according to the committee. “To date, we have done the following and are looking forward to a wider level of community feedback:

• Met with Saint Paul Parks and Recreation as well as other primary stakeholders to discuss their needs and concerns about the project.

• Hired a third party to review the historical significance of the current bandstand structure. “The 4th in the Park believes a new structure would benefit the entire community, far beyond our annual 4th of July event. This would include SAP Elementary School, Movies in the Park for Langford Recreation Center, Shakespeare in the Park and much more.”

What do you think? To offer your thoughts and feedback, go to the committee’s website home page, then in the righthand column enter your name and submit your comment.

The committee said it is in the very early stages of exploring this issue and currently has no firm design or exact location for a possible new bandstand in the park. At press time, the committee was planning to hold an informational meeting some time in May. Look for any updates on the group’s website and the Bugle’s Facebook feed.

Finding their Niche; retail shop opens

By Scott Carlson

Molly Breen and Alicia Lacy have found their Niche, literally and figuratively.

The two women in late March officially debuted Niche, their retail women’s apparel shop, at 2506 W. University Ave., in south St. Anthony Park (just east of Highway 280).

Their shop is an ethical women’s boutique, only selling apparel and accessories produced by vendors who provide employees safe working conditions and treat and pay them fairly.

Breen and Lacy began Niche three years ago, running it as a summer seasonal concept out of Nisswa, a Minnesota resort town near Brainerd. They also staged “pop up” versions of Niche in the Twin Cities. The inspiration for Niche came after the two women took a trip to Palm Springs, California and saw a plethora of independent and vintage shops along one of the town’s major shopping thoroughfares.

Lacy and Breen liked the idea of independent shops and also saw a role for women to take that model and help build community and honor ethical business practices. Consumer response to their fledging stagings of Niche were so strong that Breen and Lacy decided to open a permanent brick-and-mortar shop.

The two women said that besides carrying out an ethically-inspired business, they are endeavoring to keep their apparel affordable, with most pieces averaging $50 per item and the upper limit topping out at about $125, Alicia said. As their shop evolves, the women also want to ensure that their apparel business is adhering to sustainable, environmentally-friendly practices. “One of our values is to be heart driven,” Molly said. “That comes before money. We need to be value driven.” While neither woman has any formal retail training, they both love clothing and are entrepreneurs at heart. Molly is the director of the St. Anthony Park Nursery School and Alicia is a professional blog writer. The women met when Lacy had her children enrolled in Breen’s preschool.

In choosing to locate their shop along University Avenue, Breen and Lacy saw an opportunity to be part of the area’s transformation, which has been spurred the light rail’s Green Line, new housing and the revitalization of the nearby Midway district.

“This part of University Avenue feels quirky,” Lacy said, explaining that an eclectic mix of businesses are springing up along their section of the major thoroughfare. “Change is coming to University Avenue and we expect to be a part of this transformation. We are excited to be a part of that energy.”
Cutting Class for Climate Change

Theodore Homdrom, a former Lutheran pastor, missionary and author; died April 3 at age 100 at St. Anthony Park Home.

Ted was a "man with a mission." His book, Mission, Memories, World War II, tells of his 30 missions over Germany and France. D-Day over Normandy June 6, 1944, was his 28th mission. Those missions earned him the rank of captain, Distinguished Flying Cross (twice) and the Purple Heart.

After his honorary discharge from the U.S. Army Air Corps, Homdrom returned to teaching history and coaching basketball for a time, before attending Luther College to become a pastor. Instead of serving in the United States, he and his wife Betty served in South Africa for 35 years. His book, Mission Memories II: In Apartheid South Africa relates the challenges of that mission journey.

Homdrom counted Nobel Peace Prize-winner Archbishop Desmond Tutu as a personal friend. After returning to St. Anthony Park in retirement, Homdrom and Betty took up yet another mission: the St. Paul-Laxauvakiakom (South Africa) Sinter Community effort.

For years, Ted joined hundreds of walkers from around St. Paul in the annual CRYP Walk to raise money to feed the poor here and abroad. Despite his increasing age and later dependence on a walker, Ted was always the top fundraiser! Ted recently, Homdrom walked in St. Anthony Park's Fourth of July Parade, tall and singular in his Army fatigues, reminding those watching of the many who fought and died in WWII. The last couple of years, he rode, waving to friends, in the back of a convertible in the same parade.

Ted was preceded in death by his wife Betty. He is survived by daughter Ev of St. Anthony Park; and two sons, Steve (Mercedes) of Madison, Wis., and Paul (Cheryl) of Richmond, Ind.

He is also survived by six grandchildren, including Victor (Ann) Hanson of St. Anthony Park; and six great-grandchildren, including Adeline, Marcus, and Katerina of St. Anthony Park.

Homedrom's memorial service was held at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, April 9. His body has been donated to the University of Minnesota Anatomy Request Program.

Memorials are requested to St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church or St. Anthony Park Home.

-Kaia Scholtz

Ted Homdrom was “man with a mission”
A chestnut grows, flowers in St. Anthony Park

By Nevin Dale Young

In May, if you stroll along Chelmsford Street near Dudley Avenue in north St. Anthony Park, you’ll notice a striking, yet vaguely unfamiliar tree. That’s an American chestnut, and it certainly wouldn’t have been unfamiliar to Americans 100 years ago.

But once a dominant species across the eastern United States, today American chestnut trees that survive long enough to mature and produce flowers are exceedingly rare across the eastern United States, today American chestnut trees that mature flowering chestnut trees in Minnesota, but it was also the home of Charlie Burnham, a University of Minnesota professor emeritus and a researcher dedicated to finding resistance to chestnut blight.

One of the best ways to recognize an American chestnut is by the unique flowers produced each spring. And what beautiful flowers they are — fragrant “catkins” that seem to resemble dozens of long white caterpillars stretching out from the ends of branches. The chestnut’s bark is dark gray and sinuous smooth with deep furrows running up and down the tree. Chestnut wood is prized as timber, substantial and rot-resistant. The nuts we all know from the holidays, though chestnuts roasting on a fire these days generally come from Europe. Back when there were 4 billion chestnut trees across North America, those flowers and nuts would have been essential foundations for a continental-sized ecosystem.

A sad story
The demise of the American chestnut is a sad story of a disease epidemic that completely decimated the trees across North America in the first half of the 20th century. Chestnut blight is caused by the fungus, Cryphonectria parasitica. It first appeared in the United States in 1904 and by 1926, the disease had spread through the entire range of the American chestnut. When chestnut blight strikes a tree, it leads to certain death, though the process can take years. The fungus infects the tree through wounds in the bark. As it grows, it kills the living cells in the bark and sapwood, cutting off the flow of nutrients and water. Eventually the infection encircles the trunk and the tree canopy dies.

Sadly, the Chelmsford Street chestnut is already infected with chestnut blight. Last May, when U of M Plant Pathology Professor Bob Blanchette and Extension educator Michelle Grabowski first saw the tree, they immediately focused on cracks 15 to 25 feet up where the bark showed the tell-tale signs of fungal blight. They estimate the tree’s age to be 25 years old, but because of the disease, it has only a few more years. Indeed, a second chestnut that sat a few yards north on Chelmsford had already been cut down because of disease a few years ago.

Hope for the future
There is the promise of resistant chestnuts in the future. Scientists have been working for decades to develop trees that can resist Cryphonectria. In fact, Burnham, a leading originator of this research, was also co-founder of the American Chestnut Foundation in the 1980s. At the U, Burnham’s research wasn’t tree breeding at all; he focused on corn genetics and had previously worked with Nobel Prize winner Barbara McClintock. But he had a passion for chestnuts and a vision that the right germplasm combined with strategic breeding could produce blight-resistant trees. Scientists today are close to reaching that goal through the use of hybrids between Asian and American chestnuts, as well as trees that express a wheat gene that makes the trees resistant.

The remarkable surviving Chelmsford Street American chestnut, one of very few in St. Paul or all of Minnesota, will be in flower for much of May and early June. It will probably be around for only a few more seasons. A new crop of blight-resistant chestnuts may be planted someday, but they will take years to flower. Now is your best chance to see this magnificent tree in its splendor.

Nevin Young is a Distinguished McKnight University professor at the University of Minnesota Microbial and Plant Genomics programs. Michelle Grabowski and Robert Blanchette are Young’s university colleagues.
Annual Kasota Ponds Cleanup Coming

To protect St. Anthony Park’s (SAP) Kasota Ponds, volunteers gather each spring to pick up debris near the ponds. This spring’s cleanup is scheduled for 9 a.m. on Saturday, April 27.

The annual cleanup is part of the District 12 SAP Community Council’s efforts to create a native pollinator-friendly pond buffer that also assists in improving water quality.

All ages are welcome to participate in the ponds cleanup. From local entomologist Margot Monson and her microscopes, kindergarteners to 12th-graders can also discover what critters live in the ponds.

Stephen Mastey will be leading native and non-native plant identification tours. He will also be removing small diameter buckthorn to help reclaim the edges of the pond and return it back to native vegetation.

Arrive at 9 a.m. at the NAPA Auto Parts parking lot, 2530 Kasota Ave. Go west on Kasota, under Highway 280 and take the first left just past the railroad tracks. Refreshments will be provided.

Bring gloves; extras will be available. Reflective vests will be provided for safety. Dress for the weather; boots are helpful. The cleanup will occur, even if there are intermittent showers or other manageable but less-than-ideal weather conditions. In the event of a thunderstorm (or tornado, or blizzard!), the cleanup will be postponed to the following morning.

For further information and any postponement details, go to https://sapcc.org/kasota-ponds/

—Submitted by Betty Wheeler

Volunteers do an annual spring cleanup of the land around the Kasota Ponds. This photo is from the 2017 cleanup. Photo by Nick Busse.

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Jean Andrews
Jean (Kintgen) Andrews, 91, of Lauderdale, died March 6. Proceeded in death by her parents, and brother, Sidney Nolan. Dolores was survived by her husband; Arvid; her children, Julie Connell, Jeni (Bryan) Chamberlin; two grandchildren; a sister, Mary Lou (Leonard) Peterson; and a brother, Al Nolan.

Dolores Fevig
Dolores E. Fevig (née Nolan), 91, of St. Paul, died March 6. Dolores is survived by her husband, Carl Grundhauser; daughter Chris Joyce; bonus daughter Meredith Grundhauser; two grandchildren; and siblings Tom (Colleen) Joyce, Nancy Haberman, Tert Joyce, Bonnie Joyce, and Sally (Dave) Angan.

Lillian Finley
Lillian M. Finley, 92, died March 6. Lillian graduated from West High School in Minneapolis and received her B.A. from the College of St. Catherine. She volunteered with the Red Cross during World War II, and later in life at the Dorothy Day Center for the homeless. She was a tireless researcher for Prof. David Langan’s history of Summit Avenue and its homes.

Lillian lived in a small studio apartment and was an engaged listener. As a mother she was patient and tolerant. Lillian loved, and was beloved by, the management and staff of the St. Anthony Park Home, where she spent the final decade of her life. Her family is forever grateful to the staff and residents of the St. Anthony Park Home for the kindness they showered upon and the comfort they provided to Lillian.

Lillian is survived by her eldest sister Marion West; children Joseph and Carl Grundhauser; daughter Patrice Grundhauser; grandchildren; and siblings T om (Colleen) Joyce, Nancy Haberman, Tert Joyce, Bonnie Joyce, and Sally (Dave) Angan.

Rita Joyce
Rita Marie Joyce, 63, died March 26. She was a 1973 graduate of St. Bernard’s High School.

Rita held many positions and distinctions in her 42 years working at 3M. Her greatest achievement was the launch of an Ally campaign for the LGBTQ employee resource group, impacting hundreds, if not thousands, of people in a tremendous way. She lived her life with “an attitude of gratitude” and loved to share her time, talents, and treasures. Rita was a gift to all she met and radiated kindness.

Rita’s funeral service was held March 15 at Como Park Lutheran Church, with interment at Fort Snelling National Cemetery.

Richard Magnuson
Richard Magnuson, 93, died March 16. He was a longtime resident of St. Anthony Park.

After serving in the Navy in World War II, Richard attended Gustavus Adolphus College, the University of Oregon and the University of Minnesota, from which he graduated. In 1952, he earned his juris doctor degree from the University of Minnesota Law School. Richard married Finette Love in 1952. Together they raised a family of four children.

In 1991, Magnuson provided agricultural legal services to several countries of the former USSR. In that capacity, he traveled to Poland, Estonia, Lithuania, and Russia. Similar work took him to the Kingdom of Eritrea.

In 2000, Richard was the first lawyer inducted into the Cooperative Hall of Fame. Richard was preceded in death by his father, William; mother, Ruth; and brother, William. He is survived by Finette, his wife of 67 years; children Marcus (Gina), Scott, Nette and Leah (Sushma); seven grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

A memorial service is scheduled for April 26 at 3 p.m. at Unity Church-Unitarian, 733 Portland Ave. in St. Paul. Memorials preferred to the Natural Resources Defense Council or The Carter Center.

Maxine Sather
Maxine Olive Sather, 91, died March 14. She was born June 20, 1928, near Mentor, Minn., to Marvin and Oscar Sather of Maple Bay, Minn.

Maxine graduated from Montrose High School in 1948. In her youth, Maxine was a waitress at the State Capitol cafeteria. She knew Hubert Humphrey and followed many of the laws developed to help the poor and the needy. Her interest in politics never waned. She loved watching sports and political events on TV. Her hobbies included embroidery, reading and learning new words. She worked in the manufacturing section of the company.

Preceding Maxine in death were her parents and three sisters, Gloria Solie, Juneth Palmer, and Lorraine Godtland. She is survived by two sisters, Joyce Evelyn Johnson of St. Paul and Ida Marriott of Bemidji, Minn.; as well as 17 nieces and nephews.

Her memorial service will be May 4 at 2 p.m., at the Chapel at Lyngblomsten, 1455 Almond Ave., St. Paul. Another service will be held later at Hittfeldt Cemetery, Maple Bay, Minn.
Neighbours from 5

Somalia to Minnesota in 1993 and was sponsored by the Refugee Committee of St. Anthony Park

Lutheran Church. At that time, Hussein was 10 years old. He has since earned degrees in community development and city planning from St. Cloud State University and in political science from North Dakota State University. As director of CAIR-MN, Hussein works to, among other things, enhance understanding of Islam and build coalitions that promote justice and mutual understanding.

Birds Nature Survey Walk – Como Woodland. Joan McKeeman, professor of biology and environmental science at Anoka-Ramsey College, will lead a two-hour free educational nature walk identifying birds starting at 8 a.m. Saturday, May 11 at the southwest section of Como Park. The Como Woodland tour will start at the Kilmer Firplace, 1221 Wynne Ave. 

Birds and bird habitat are the subjects of this second survey walk of the six-part series. Spring bird migration is at its peak in May. Yearly spring birding surveys in the Como Woodland have identified more than 80 species of birds visiting or living in this small urban woodland. A limited number of brochures will be available for use during the survey walk or bring your own.

RSVP committee chairperson: tenn.beyer@gmail.com

Future survey walks in the Como Woodland Nature Survey Walk series are: Tree & Shrubs on June 13 at 5 p.m.; Mammals, Reptiles & Amphibians on June 22 at 8:30 a.m.; Butterflies & other Insects on July 18, 6 p.m.; Dragonflies on August 10, 9 a.m.

Hand drum class

The Women’s Drum Center, 2242 University Ave., will offer a class in hand drums for beginners on May 14, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. The cost is $10. Drums are provided. For further information, visit womendrumcenter.org.

Donating for Library book sale

The St. Anthony Park Library Association is seeking donations for its annual book sale set May 31 and June 1, during the St. Anthony Park Arts Festival. You can bring your new or gently used books, CDs and DVDs to the book cart in the lower level of the St. Anthony Park Library, 2245 Como Ave., anytime the library is open from now until May 29. Please note, the Library Association can’t accept textbooks or VHS or cassette tapes. Questions? Contact Susan Dean at splabobkale@gmail.com

Holy Childhood church rummage sale

Church of the Holy Childhood, 1435 Midway Parkway, will hold a three-day rummage sale in early May. The schedule is 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, May 9; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, May 10 and 9 a.m. to noon Saturday May 11. Sale items will include CDs, books, furniture and plants.

Gardening with phlox

The Minnesota State Horticultural Society is holding a special class on May Day focusing on the genus Phlox. Woodland Phlox, Creeping Phlox, Prairie Phlox, Meadow Phlox, Carolina Phlox and the tallest– Garden Phlox. The class will be held from 11 a.m. to noon at Scarborough Fair Boutique, 2238 Carter Ave. in St. Paul’s St. Anthony Park neighborhood. Horticulturist Mary Maguire Lemm on will discuss how to best grow the various Phlox and their value as cut flowers and butterfly/bumming attractive. Each participant will receive a powder mildew resistant Phlox for their garden. Register online for either the 11 a.m. or the 6:30 p.m. session on May 1 at northerngardener.org/hshevents/ or by calling 651-643-3601.

Understanding Depression in Older Adults

The Minnesota chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness will hold a free class in Oakdale on Saturday, April 27 to talk about risk factors, warning signs, stigma, treatment, recovery and resources for depression in older adults. The class will be held from 10:11:30 a.m. at Guardian Angels Catholic Church, 6260 4th St. North, Oakdale. For registration or further information, contact the church office at 651-738-2223 or www.guardian-angels.org.
MAY EVENTS

SAINT ANTHONY PARK LIBRARY

2245 Como Ave.

The library will be closed on Monday, May 6 for staff development and Saturday, May 25-Monday, May 27, for Memorial Day.

All events and classes take place in the library’s auditorium unless otherwise noted.

1 Wednesday 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Adult Book Club.

11 Wednesday 6-7 p.m.

Saint Anthony Park Library Book Sale.

13 Thursday, May 9

The library will be closed.

17 Friday, May 10

Senior Cinema: Green Book.

21 Tuesday, May 14

Kaleidoscope: Petite Concerts.

28 Tuesday

Saint Anthony Park Branch Library Association Book Sale.

31 Thursday

*No storytime on May 31.

SAINT ANTHONY PARK AREA SENIORS

FOR ADULTS AND THEIR CAREGIVERS

12 Park Bugle Fund.

16 Thursday, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Lunch outing to Parkville (1600 County Road B2) at 11 a.m. Call the office at 651-642-9020 to reserve a lunch seating.

21 Tuesday, May 7

Kaleidoscope: Performance on the lawn at 2:00 Hilliard Ave., 3:30-5:30 p.m. Worldly SIPS offerings.

21 Tuesday, May 7

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22 Sunday, May 5

*No storytime on May 28.

24 Tuesday, May 7

Kaleidoscope: Performance on the lawn at 2:00 Hilliard Ave., 3:30-5:30 p.m. Worldly SIPS offerings.

24 Tuesday

*No storytime on May 24 and May 31.

LANGFORD PARK RECREATION CENTER

For further information call 651-298-5813 or visit www.stpaul.gov/langfordrec

13 Thursday, June 13

Lunch outing to the sings possible.

NORTHWEST COMO RECREATION CENTER

For further information. Visit www.spaip.org/northwestcomo or call 651-298-5813.

21 Wednesday, June 5

Décor for adults, from 6:30-8 p.m. Free. Sponsored by the Saint Anthony Park Area Seniors.

**No storytime on May 24 and May 31.**

For more information about upcoming events, please visit our website at www.sappseniors.org or contact our office at 651-642-0411. All are invited to enjoy a sweet treat with us!

28 Tuesday

Saint Anthony Park Area Seniors

SWEET CELEBRATION

For program volunteers, caregivers, seniors, and neighborhood residents on: Tuesday, May 21, 3-5 p.m. on the lawn at 2200 Hillside Ave.

www.sappseniors.org | 651.642.9052

FOR KIDS AND THEIR CAREGIVERS

SAINT ANTHONY PARK AREA SENIORS [SAPAS]

Special classes, events:

2 Thursday, June 6

Summer Gardens - seniors and caregivers can take part together!

For further information about upcoming events, please visit our website at www.sappseniors.org or contact our office at 651-642-0411. All are invited to enjoy a sweet treat with us!

10 Friday, May 31

Dinner and a movie at Delicata.

11 Saturday

Parents Night Out.

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Walling, chairman of the TC GIS board of directors. “We are gratified that the City of St. Paul saw through this absurd plot, and we look forward to the City Council approving our project in the near future,” Walling said in a statement.

Despite Corrie’s report, whether the former church ultimately is designated a historic structure and, therefore, spared demolition is an open question.

Despite the city’s rejection of the EAW motion, SHPO member Bonnie Youngquist insisted the school’s proposed expansion “will increase greenhouse gas traffic emissions, and traffic congestion.”

Denis Gardner, the National Register historian at the Minnesota State Historical Preservation Office recently concluded the former St. Andrew’s Church is worthy of historic designation due to its unique architectural.

“In Romanesque Revival design is locally distinctive when contrasted with other churches employing the style,” Gardner said. “If a National Register nomination for St. Andrew’s Catholic Church was presented to the State Historic Preservation Review Board, the SHPO believes that body would approve listing of the building in the National Register and vote to forward the nomination to the Keeper of the National Register in Washington, D.C. Youngquist said the SHPO’s letter was “good news for anyone who values St. Paul’s architectural legacy.”

While this does not limit interior alterations, which the owner is free to do, it may make the building eligible for grants and other sources of funding.”

However, Walling contended the SHSS group has omitted key facts, stating among other things, “It is TC GIS’s understanding that a building cannot be placed on the National Register without the property owner’s consent.”

“If the City Council determines that the [church] building should be designated a local preservation site and acts accordingly, the City will have the authority to determine the need for and impose reasonable mitigation [to alter the building] or deny permission to demolish the building,” Corrie said in his report.

Bielenberg from 1

Bielenberg — who, at age 67, could retire — said he’s not ready to yet. “Right now I’m focused on my recovery,” he said, “so I haven’t thought about a lot of what might happen after that. But I’m sure I’ll miss seeing the people who come into Micawber’s, and I’ll always be grateful for their support.”

On Sunday, May 19, at 3 p.m., an event will be held to honor Micawber’s and Tom Bielenberg.

“Remembering Micawber’s: A Celebration of Words,” is scheduled at St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ, 2129 Commonwealth Ave., and will feature music and readings by noted writers.

Darse Hasky is a former editor of the Park Bugle

The St. Anthony Park Branch Library Book Sale has expanded to

2 days May 31 - June 1

10 a.m. - 4 p.m. both days

Thousands of books plus CDs and DVDs

Bag sale Saturday at 3:00 St. Anthony Park Branch Library

2245 Como Avenue

Bielenberg found himself doing more special orders. He ordered for neighborhood book groups, and his meeting in a bookstore meant feeling the inspiration from all the people who have walked in and out of the place. Hocker describes Bielenberg’s insights about whatever book the club was reading, describing him as “the real deal.”
Twenty-two Como Park High seniors currently studying AP government and AP macroeconomics spent a week in March in Washington D.C. participating in the national Close Up program, an initiative that promotes civics education and involvement in our democracy with the capital city serving as a real-time classroom.

The students visited iconic national monuments, memorials and museums. Highlights included the Smithsonian, the Supreme Court Historical Society, Library of Congress, U.S. Capitol, Arlington National Cemetery, the National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial and unique Washington neighborhoods.

Como students met with Minnesota’s U.S. Sens. Tina Smith and Amy Klobuchar. They met with Klobuchar was in the Capitol during the Democratic leadership office near the Senate Chamber. Klobuchar also showed the students the ornately decorated President’s Room.

Sitting in the House Gallery, Como students got a firsthand look at the American political system of government in action. Students watched as the U.S. House of Representatives debated the H.R. 1 bill, legislation that supports strengthening voter access and reducing the influence of big money in politics.

Throughout the week, Como students and their peers from across the country broke into groups and discussed policy with peers from across the nation in workshop groups. The Close Up closing banquet of 160 students featured six student speakers, including Como senior Jamie Cohen, who delivered a reflective and motivating speech that received much applause. Throughout the week, Como students and their peers from across the country broke into groups and discussed policy with peers from across the nation in workshop groups. The Close Up closing banquet of 160 students featured six student speakers, including Como senior Jamie Cohen, who delivered a reflective and motivating speech that received much applause.

Como High School students participating in the national Close Up program in Washington, D.C., met with their U.S. senators. The Como group is pictured here with presidential candidate Sen. Amy Klobuchar in the U.S. Capitol. (photo courtesy of Sen. Klobuchar’s office)

The League of Women Voters fellowship students met with Sen. Amy Klobuchar. They met with Sen. Klobuchar and her staff to discuss the Legislative process. Students met with Amy Klobuchar in the U.S. Capitol.

The Award-wining research Eight 11th-grade U.S. history students have moved on from district to regional to state competitions for WA VES, the women’s branch of the League of Women Voters. The Como High School League of Women Voters has been named as the top school in Minnesota for WA VES, the women’s branch of the League of Women Voters. The Como High School League of Women Voters has been named as the top school in Minnesota.
Classifieds

Send your ad to classifieds@parkbugle.org or P.O. Box 8126, St. Paul, MN 55108, or call Fariba Sanikhatam, 651-440-8160. Ads are $1 per word. Phone numbers, email addresses and websites are considered two words. Add a box or art for $10 each. Next deadlines: May 8.

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Koua Yang graduated from Como Park High School in 1994. During his years as a Como student, athletics played a huge role in his life. Yang was a four-time, all-conference wrestler, twice earning all-state status. He was also a four-time, all-conference tennis player for the Cougars.

Beyond his sports success and honors, Yang found that athletics helped him develop the work ethic, residency and leadership skills needed to pursue his career in education. After 16 years of teaching social studies at Harding High School (and two years as an administrator), Yang returned to Como last fall as the Cougars athletic director.

In this interview with the Bugle, Yang talks about his new position, athletic offerings, and future goals.

Q: How does it feel to be back at Como in your new role?
A: It’s been great coming back home to Como. The community, staff, and coaches have been very welcoming and supportive. I am fortunate to have a solid core of parents, especially the Como Booster Club, supporting Como clubs, teachers, and athletics. Como has a strong leadership team with Stacy Collins as our leader. She epitomizes what leadership means, often going well beyond the call of duty and making my transition a smooth one. The bottom line is that I am excited to have the chance to improve the high school experience of young adults.

Q: How do you see club sports, such as ultimate Frisbee and the brand-new boys’ volleyball program, impacting athletics coordinated and regulated by the Minnesota State High School League?
A: Many traditional activities have seen their participation numbers decrease with new sports like lacrosse, ultimate and boys’ volleyball. However, as an energetic young man growing up, I appreciated all the different sports and the lessons/skills each sport taught me. It made me a better athlete. With that being said, I still believe in choices for all of our kids and am happy to support all teams because everyone belongs in our community. Some not-so-obvious challenges are Title IX issues (with newly created sports like boys’ volleyball), facility space, and individual budgets for equipment, uniforms, league fees, and transportation.

Q: What are your ideas for improving the athletic program at Como? What would you like to see happen in the next year? In the next five years?
A: My vision for Como Park is to increase participation and improve the quality in all sports. The winter season was a good start. We need to maximize the resources we have in the building and capitalize on our offline programs. Additional new boys’ volleyball, and other youth feeder programs. Participation numbers are a priority for the short term and long term, but we also need to hire, train, and retain the best possible coaches to develop our young men and women. We need coaches that are willing to improve their own craft. Another high priority for the next five to 10 years is to move Como Park from a Tier III facility to Tier I. Our students and community deserve the best possible facility in order to promote Como Park. My job is to eliminate as many excuses as possible and level the playing field, so we can compete with schools across the state.