SAP Community Foundation remembers Michael Brasel

By Scott Carlson

The St. Anthony Park community is embarking on a long-term goal to remember Michael Brasel.

The St. Anthony Park Community Foundation has started a youth endowed fund to honor Brasel, who in early May died of gunshot wounds as he interrupted car thieves in front of his house.

The Michael Brasel Fund for Youth is an endowment managed by the St. Anthony Park Community Foundation to honor and remember a dedicated community member,” said Julie Drechsler, foundation executive director.

“Michael Brasel found joy in mentoring and serving youth,” Drechsler explained.

In an interview with the Bugle, Drechsler said the foundation’s goal is to increase the availability to quality and innovative opportunities for students beyond classroom programs and activities. The foundation hopes to initially raise up to $50,000 for the endowed fund with a longer-range goal of growing the fund to $250,000, Drechsler said.

“We want to do something of longstanding significance and (showing) Michael’s commitment to the community,” she said. “It is creating a lasting legacy for Michael. He was a mentor to many kids.”

Drechsler said the Brasel endowed fund is the foundation’s first one designated for serving youth. The foundation has three other endowed funds, including one dedicated to supporting environmental projects, she said.

The foundation’s grant committee and Brasel’s family and close friends will select programs and activities for endowment grants, Drechsler said.

Foundation board members Brennan Townley and Andy McNattin are early supporters of the Brasel fund.

“I donated to the Michael Brasel Youth Endowment for many reasons—Michael was a friend and role model as a father and husband,” McNattin said.

Another change: A new opera- tor will be running concessions at the Grandstand. She said they’ve built five new structures, expanding where people can buy food.

“It’ll just be a nice addition and provide a better customer service experience for those who attend concerts,” Alexander said. “Hopefully shorter lines and easier access to food and beverage.”

Meanwhile, the safety of fairgoers continues to be a priority, Alexander said. Like last year, the fair will use its own police department, which hires officers from around the state for the 12 days the fair runs.

Focusing on the fair’s traditions while looking for new additions is a big consideration, according to Alexander.

“It’s really a balance,” Alexander said. “It’s about making sure we honor and maintain those traditions that are so important to people, but also peppers in some new things as well.”

Gustav DeMars is a fourth-year journalism student at the University of Minnesota’s Hubbard School of Journalism and Mass Communication.
The grand opening of Westgate Commons Park, 717 Berry St., will be held from 7 to 9 p.m., Sept. 16. The event will feature St. An- thony Park Community Council committees, local organizations and treats, including an ice cream social. The event is free and open to the public.

Coming: Walk around I-94
MnDOT is currently taking public input on high-level options for the future of I-94 in part of St. Paul and Minneapolis, including along the southern edge of St. Anthony Park.

The Our Streets Minneapolis group has published an explain- er about the MnDOT survey at tinyurl.com/94surveyopinion, highlighting the options that come closest to fitting with the Twin Cit- ies Boulevard concept, explaining

why freeway expansion is prob- lematic, showing how the survey allows for expressing additional ideas and including aspects specific to south St. Anthony Park.

To focus the Rethinking I-94 process on our south St. Anthony Park, the District 12 Transpor ta tion Committee is joining Union Park District Council to sponsor a walk around our adjoining part of I-94 on Tuesday, Sept. 26, starting at 6 p.m.

The walk around will begin on the patio at Lake Monster Brewing (just east of Vandalia Street, north of I-94). Our group then will make a loop to the east as far as Prior Av enue, then trek back to Vandalia, followed by a loop west to Pelham Boulevard, up along Highway 280, then back to Lake Monster.

The total walk around route is about three miles and is expected to be done by about 7:30 p.m.

Come experience I-94 as you may never have seen it before: as a pedestrian, or a person who lives right next to it. Questions? Email events@sapcc.org.

Upcoming meetings
St. Anthony Park Community Council committees discuss a vari- ety of issues at their monthly meet- ings. Visit the council’s website at sapcc.org to learn more.

All meetings are hosted via Zoom. Meeting times are subject to change. For ongoing updates and meeting changes, follow along on Facebook @St.AnthonyPark- CommunityCouncil.

• Land Use Committee: 7 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 7
• District 12 Board: 7 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 14
• Environment Committee: 7 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 27
• Transportation Committee: 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 26
• Equity Committee: 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 28

Submitted by Kathryn Murray, District 12 executive director.

District 10
Community Council
Citywide drop-off set Sept. 16
The city of St. Paul partners with local district councils to organize annual citywide drop-off events for residents to properly dispose of large refuse items and recyclable materials not collected via the res- idential recycling program.

District 10 helps coordinate this event held annually at the Minne- sota State Fair Grounds. You can find more information and accept- ed items and pricing list at district-10comopark.org/citywide dropoff, and the latest updates from the city of St. Paul at epa.gov/drop-offs. Volunteers get a voucher for a free drop-off. Interested in volun- teering to help us with the Sept. 16 Citywide Drop-Off event? For more information, please go to bit.ly/2023DropOffVolunteer.

Artist with Como roots
The new Treetop Trail at the Min- nesota Zoo that has been making the rounds in various news outlets also includes an art exhibit at its brand new Hamill Nature Center. The artist, Stephanie Mirocha, who grew up on Midway Park way and guides Como Tree Treks, presents three of her artworks dis- played in the exhibit under the sec- tion Parts of a Tree.

All three paintings zoom the viewer in to the closeup world of trees—an Ohio buckeye blossom in spring, a “flowering” red pine pinecone and a cluster of newly emerged red maple samaras, (a.k.a. helicopter wings). Created in watercolors of different sizes, the paintings depict Mirocha’s inspira- tion arising from trees.

“Rooted in Nature” will be on display through the end of 2023.

More information on Mirocha’s art appears on her website, stepha- niemirocha.com.

District 10 recordings
Did you miss presentations given during District 10’s monthly Como community meetings or as part of a special event? Look for all District 10’s presentation recordings on our website at district10comopark.org/ recorded-presentations.

District 10 community meetings
• Environment Committee: 6 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 6
• Neighborhood Relations Committee: 7:15 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 6
• Land Use Committee: 6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 19

District 10 Board:
7:15 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 19

District 10 meetings are hybrid on Zoom and at the Como Street- car Station, 1224 Lexington Park- way. To find meeting details, go to District10Comopark.org. All District 10 board and committee meetings are open to the public.

Submitted by Shevek McKee, Dis- trict 10 Community Council execu- tive director.

Upcoming events
• Music, Ice Cream and Grilling — Saturday, Sept 23rd — Noon-3pm
Join us at the parking lot of Como Park Lutheran Church on the corner of Hoyt and Hamline

Come Celebrate with Us
A farewell to Foxy Falafel

By Janet Wight

After a 13-year run, the Foxy Falafel restaurant in south St. Anthony Park shut down its doors on July 21. Owner Erica Strait explained it was “time to move on and try something different.”

In the beginning, Strait had no idea whether her restaurant would succeed. She had been in the food business for 25 years, but had never owned a restaurant.

While living in New York City, Strait learned about Middle Eastern cuisine by working with an Israeli chef. When Strait moved to the Twin Cities, she couldn’t find the idea whether her restaurant would succeed. She had been in the food business for 25 years, but had never owned a restaurant.

When Strait moved to the Twin Cities, she couldn’t find the same type of food, so she decided to open a falafel stand at the Kingfield Farmers Market in Minneapolis. The booth also featured a smoothie bicycle, which blended smoothies as the wheels were pedaled.

After two years she added a food truck and opened the brick-and-mortar restaurant on Raymond Avenue, followed by a second food truck.

Both of the food trucks were discontinued at the beginning of the pandemic in 2020, she explained. Falafel, a patty-shaped fritter of Arab origin, was the restaurant’s specialty. The dary, soy- and gluten-free menu selections provided options for customers with food allergies and sensitivities. Vegan and vegetarian dishes were also popular choices.

Foxy Falafel customers included neighborhood residents as well as those working near the restaurant, and there were quite a few regulars. Strait “is proud of the community and the people we served,” she said.

The restaurant employed six to eight people. Once the restaurant closed, Strait used her industry connections to assist her former employees with job placements.

Strait would like to mark the closing of the restaurant on a positive note. She is thankful to her customers for the outpouring of gratitude that she received after announcing the closure.

“Theyir appreciation for the team and the Foxy Falafel was really awesome,” she said.

Currently, Strait has no plans but is inviting interested former customers to stay tuned to her next move or future announcements by following her on social media (Foxy Falafel on Facebook or @ foxyfalafel on Instagram).

Janet Wight, who lives in Como Park, is a regular freelancer writer for the Bugle.

Never far from falafel

By Yoara Brander

The Foxy Falafel recently closed. But have no fear, falafel aficionados! There are still plenty of places to get your falafel fix. While it can be found all over the Twin Cities, this list focuses only on the locations closest to the St. Anthony Park neighborhood.

Mim’s Cafe

1435 Cleveland Ave N S. Paul mim’s-cafe.com

Situated across from the vast lawn of the University of Minnesota St. Paul campus since 2005, Mim’s is the closest place to find falafel for most St. Anthony Park residents.

It’s also the quietest, except for the occasional musical session on its deck. Inside, there’s plenty of seating spread across three rooms. Mahmod Shabini’s family offers chicken falafel along with other Palestinian dishes (chicken shawarma is a popular order) and many American menu items.

Ed’s Deli

2424 Larpenteur Ave W, Lauderdale

Enjoying the most convenient location for those on the go, Ed opened his Lebanese deli in 2018. Relying on the USA convenience store at the intersection of Euista Street and Larpenteur Avenue, he can’t offer much in the way of seating or ambiance, but his steady stream of customers doesn’t seem to mind.

Zakia Deli

2412 Kennedy St NE, Minneapolis

zakia deli.com

This small Lebanese restaurant, started in 2006 by Mama Zakia, is probably the one you’ve never driven past, but it’s easy to find between Broadway and Hennepin. Known and loved by the businesses that share Stinson Boulevard, Zakia Deli is now run by Mama’s three sons and their families. They still serve her recipes made from scratch.

Their chicken falafel is very popular as are their lemon garlic chicken and their ever-changing daily specials. They have seating inside and out on their patio as well.

Holy Land

250 Central Ave NE, Minneapolis

holylandbrand.com

The bustling bazaar that is Holy Land has chickpea falafel in its restaurant and everything else halal you could ever want in its adjacent supermarket. There are three seating areas. Started in 1985 with Mama Fatma’s Palestinian recipes, it is still being run by three generations of the Wadi family. Unlike the other restaurants, it is open every day, 365 days a year.

From all of the restaurants listed above, both delivery and catering can be arranged.

Yoara Brander lived for the last 13 years in Giza, Egypt, and moved back to St. Anthony Park last November, having first made sure that there was a ready supply of falafel.

“Because they’re halal, they are a great option for people who follow a Muslim, Orthodox Jewish, or kosher diet,” she explained.

The Falafel Deli

1435 Cleveland Ave NE

Situated close to Mim’s Cafe, this deli offers a variety of halal meats and falafel. The menu includes a variety of toppings such as hummus, tahini, and garlic sauce.

Elmwood Falafel

2312 Larpenteur Ave

Located near the Elmwood neighborhood, this falafel restaurant offers a variety of falafel dishes and vegetarian options. The falafel is made fresh every day.

Elmwood Deli

2160 Larpenteur Ave

This deli offers a variety of meats and falafel dishes. The falafel is made fresh every day and comes with a variety of toppings such as hummus, tahini, and garlic sauce.

Elmwood Falafel Deli

2312 Larpenteur Ave

Located near the Elmwood neighborhood, this deli offers a variety of meats and falafel dishes. The falafel is made fresh every day and comes with a variety of toppings such as hummus, tahini, and garlic sauce.

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1858-2023

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Snelling and Larpenteur corridor study launched

By Anne Holzman

A traveler stepping off a bus at the corner of Snelling and Larpenteur avenues would be hard pressed to know which Midwest suburb they landed in.

Well, the city of Falcon Heights wants to make those two roads more inviting, in line with its 2040 comprehensive plan. Armed with a government grant, the city council voted on July 26 to hire Minneapolis-based WSB consulting firm to conduct a preliminary study covering both corridors for their entire length within city limits.

Ramsey County owns and maintains Larpenteur Avenue while the state owns and maintains Snelling Avenue but Falcon Heights is responsible for sidewalks and adjacent streets. Commercial and residential development possibilities along the corridors will also be considered.

City Administrator Jack Linehan told the council that the county recently decided to lower speed limits on some stretches of Larpenteur Avenue.

The city comprehensive plan sets a goal of “building connections and community identity in Falcon Heights.” It specifically describes Larpenteur and Snelling avenues as “significant barriers between neighborhoods, fragmenting city identity.” And it notes the road design puts a higher priority on vehicles at the expense of pedestrian convenience.

The $5,000 grant from Ramsey County’s Critical Corridors program, funded by the Housing Re development levy, will cover most of the study’s cost. The council voted to fund the rest, a little under $50,000, from city coffers.

At the July 26 city council meet ing, Mayor Randy Gustafson comm e nted that the city’s Planning Commission had discussed the proposal in a work session and expressed strong support.

According to the WSB proposal, approved by the council, “The creation of the corridor plan will document the goals and vision for the corridors, assess the existing infrastructure and land uses and provide implementable strategies and ideas for the creation of a more resilient, equitable and accessible city center.” Public comment on the plan is expected to take about eight months.

Anne Holzman is a freelance writer for the Bugle.
Guest Editorial: The new fiscal year for the Bugle

By Helen Warren

Greetings from the Park Bugle board of directors. I’m Helen Warren, the chairperson of the board for our 2023-24 fiscal year!

My move to my current vol-
unteer post is one that begins some 20 years ago. I’ve been a Park Bugle reader since before I became a permanent resident of St. Anthony Park in 2005.

I moved to St. Paul from Iowa in 2002 to take a job as a writer-grant writer at Macalester College. My rental house in South St. Paul wasn’t available, so I started my job. I was fortunate to have a friend who was also well acquainted with Ann Fen-
derg and Ellen Walters, who lived in south St. Anthony Park.

Ann and Ellen were kind enough to invite me to live in their guest room for six weeks until I could move into my rental house. That’s how I got to know the neighborhood.

I read the Park Bugle for the first time one Saturday morning over a cup of coffee at the Finnish Bistro. I picked it up because I love newspapers. My father was a news editor for the Associated Press for over 35 years. What newspapers do, and what they aspire to be, were topics at our dinner table nearly every evening.

I was impressed that I lived in a place with such a high-quality newspaper. It particularly impressed me that it was a non-profit enterprise.

The Park Bugle is a monthly non-profit community newspaper serving St. Anthony Park, Lauderdale, Falcon Lake, Hiawatha, Como Park.

The Park Bugle reports and analyzes Falcon Heights and Como Park. The Park Bugle is published by Park Press, Inc.

The Park Bugle gets to decide how much it is concerned, each reader of the Park Bugle would gain an ad-

The Park Bugle is a non-profit enterprise.

If you have reached the “elder” status and are in fairly good health, you probably know that hearing, vision and mobility, failing body-parts, may not just lament, but silently rage at your life-long caution.

As you focus on the bent attendant’s great regrets, when you are too late?

This will be the plight of most of us advanced octogenarians. For you, you focus on the bent attendant’s great regrets, when you are too late?

You In My Dreams” astride piano: while waiting room a month ago, as well later this afternoon regarding a possi-

You can still have a glimmering future we face with runway cli-
mate change.

Extreme heat waves, horrible air quality, unpredictable storms, flooding, growing food insecurity, and it goes on and on.

As difficult as these issues have been and will be, we know that it will worsen in the years to come if we do not act aggressively to com-

To death yesterday.

You in your surprise that you didn’t. And when you look at a new way to tell your favorite grocery or home remodeler or insurance agent how much you value them, thank them for advertising in the Bugle.

Notice I didn’t include “subscription revenue” as one of the Park Bugle’s funding streams. That’s be-

...and will continue to be the most

billion searches, some 99,000 per

Second. The Google search I con-

ducted to retrieve this figure re-
turned 1,250,000,000 results in .57

seconds. This is where we are. How the news we consume is what media scholar Edward Jay Epstein called “news wars.” News wars are quite understated in the strong sense of place to anchor it.

So what is the Park Bugle doing to ensure its future? Well, we’re just doing the right thing to do. Our children, particularly our children of color, are and will continue to be the most harmed by the effects of climate change.

As our public schools’ central pur-
pose is to prepare our children for their future, it is disingenuous at best not to also work to ensure they have a future.

Our planet is in crisis. Our pub-
lic schools need to be leaders in addressing that crisis.

Thomas Lucy, St. Paul

Too late?

Melanoma worked itself out of left cheek last week; jawline issue MOHSd to death yesterday.

Met with “special” cardiologist this afternoon regarding a possi-
ble implant of some ticking na-

While this is good news, the

to the position to benefit chil-
der to be in that workforce.

millions of workers for those green jobs. Our public schools are the

First, K-12 public schools are the

Our children to be in that workforce

demanding levels of funding coming to act on climate change.

Here in Minnesota, during the

late legislative session, the 100%

Climate Energy Bill was passed com-

municating our state to move forward on climate. At an even more local level, 22 different cities in Min-

nesota have declared a climate emergency and are advocating for aggressive action. All good news!!

While this is good news, the

truth is that aggressive climate ac-
tion was needed 20 to 30 years ago, so we have a great deal of catching up to do. The question to ask now is what next?

The simple answer is that we need to continue to push for ac-

tion at ALL levels and institutions within our society. One of the

institutions that can and should be a leader in adding climate jus-
tice is our public schools and lo-

cally that would be St. Paul Public Schools.

The question is why are our public schools so important in this fight?

The 122 public schools are the nation’s largest consumer of en-
egineering and largest collection of public infrastructure. This is a massive footprint and with public schools taking aggressive action to reduce their emissions, significant prog-

ress could be made.

Second, as we move toward a green revolution, we will need millions of workers for those green jobs. Our public schools are the primary force in preparing our children to be in that workforce and to be in the position to benefit from our transforming economy.

Third, our public schools operate the largest mass transit fleet in the nation, estimated at 480,000 diesel buses. Imagine the emissions saved with our public schools electing that fleet.

Fourth, children are screaming for action on climate. Our public schools can amplify those voices for needed societal, economic and social change.

Fifth and finally, simply it is the right thing to do. Our children, particularly our children of color, are and will continue to be the most harmed by the effects of climate change.

As our public schools’ central pur-
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Our planet is in crisis. Our pub-
lic schools need to be leaders in addressing that crisis.

Paige Sanikhatam

Guest Editorial to p. 5

CLIMATE change and public schools

Already this summer, we have seen a glimpse of what our future we face with runway cli-
mate change. Extreme heat waves, horrible air quality, unpredictable storms, flooding, growing food insecurity, and it goes on and on.

As difficult as these issues have been and will be, we know that it will worsen in the years to come if we do not act aggressively to com-

bust climate change.

Starting into the face of this prob-

lem, there is some good news to report. At a federal level, thanks to the Inflation Reduction Act, we see an unprecedented level of funding coming to act on climate change.

In Minnesota, during the

late legislative session, the 100%

Climate Energy Bill was passed com-

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Thomas Lucy, St. Paul
Local writer’s letter asks DeSantis: ‘Ban my book’

By Nancy Koester

Editor’s note: Nancy Koester was a pastor at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, and taught at Luther Seminary on an adjunct basis. She is the author of “We Will Be Free: The Life and Faith of Sojourner Truth” (Eerdmans, 2023). Her book, “Harriet Beecher Stowe: A Spiritual Life,” won a Minnesota Book Award in 2015.

Nancy writes: “I wrote to Gov. Ron DeSantis, asking him to ban my book on Sojourner Truth, in protest against his censorship of Black history. My research into Sojourner Truth—and before that into slavery in America and its consequences—has shown me that Black history is American history. I didn’t get a response from DeSantis, and didn’t expect to. But it was cathartic to write the letter, and I’m glad to share it with you.”

Koester’s letter to DeSantis was dated June 28, 2023, the national holiday commemorating the end of slavery in the United States in 1865. Here is the text of her letter:

Dear Gov. DeSantis,

Please ban my book “We Will Be Free: The Life and Faith of Sojourner Truth.” Enslaved in New York for 30 years, in her freedom she became a Christian preacher who spoke against slavery and for women’s rights. It is quite possible that someone who reads my book might feel bad…because Sojourner or I was sold away from her family and severely beaten.

When New York banned slavery, her son was illegally sold to Alabama. Sojourner fought a long court battle to get him back and became the first black woman to successfully sue a white man for the return of a family member.

Which is worse, people feeling bad about slavery, or getting inspired by Truth’s courage? There’s more. This book will also mess with your ideas of religion and patriotism. According to the “Narrative of Sojourner Truth,” it was a vision of Jesus that inspired her. You don’t want this secret to get out, that religious faith—though it can be misused to justify oppression—can also give people a sense of their dignity as children of God.

Sincerely,

Rev. Dr. Nancy Koester

Nancy Koester lived for many years in St. Anthony Park, and now lives with her husband Craig near Como Lake.

The Park Bugle’s mission is “to turn readers into neighbors.” That’s what Joanna Dunaway, head of Syracuse University’s Institute for Democracy, Journalism and Citizenship, had in mind when she said: “Local news reminds people of what they have in common, both their challenges and their shared identities, their shared culture, their shared community.”

What we share forms a foundation for navigating our disagreements and differences, and for recognizing what we have in common with those strangers who might one day become neighbors.

Helen Warren lives in St. Anthony Park and is the chairperson of the Park Bugle board of directors.

— Colleen Healy

Colleen Healy, Licensed Real Estate Agent
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• 1978 3 story split level
• 3 bedrooms
• 3 bathrooms
• $450,000

Contact me for a private showing.

Guest Editorial from p. 4

automatically. Residents in Falcon Heights, Lauderdale, and Como Park can receive it free by signing up at parkbugle.org/optin. You can also pick up print issues at local businesses, restaurants and public buildings. That means people who live in our neighborhoods can get a sense of who we are and what is important to us by reading the Bugle. It also means that recent arrivals, from across the city or around the world, can get acquainted with our neighbors without asking risky questions or filling out a form.

If you live outside the delivery area, you or someone who might one day become your neighbors who might one day become neighbors. I hope you find my book to be contrary to your ideas of patriotism, history and religion. And that someone who reads my book

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“Investing for the Next Economy”

By Pat Thompson

The Transition Town—All St. Anthony Park group began talking about community investing six years ago asking: Why is our local economy a climate issue?

The answer is because, as TT-ASAP, motto says, we work for both a smaller footprint and a stronger community. That second part means that an interdependent, resource-sharing community has greater resilience in the face of climate change.

Economic resilience is a major part of that, as we’ve all experienced supply chain shocks in recent years.

Investing in clean energy instead of fossil fuels is an obvious part of Main Street rather than Wall Street. But so is investing in local businesses we own them here, together.

All of this also requires figuring out how to free up our savings to make those investments, when our country’s financial structures are built to send our money away from here.

How can we do that?

Are you interested in:

• Supporting and even owning part of Main Street rather than Wall Street?
• Investing in renewable energy instead of fossil fuels?
• Keeping your money here to build a more equitable Minnesota?

Find out at a free evening session on Wednesday, Sept. 20, called “Investing for the Next Economy” (see sidebar for details). This introduction is for everyone. No financial background is needed, and nothing specific is being sold. Our panelists will give an overview of:

• A framework for thinking about local and sustainable investing.
• Ways to support the growing movement to build economies that actually work for people and our ecosystems.

Rebecca Blumenshine is the creator of Both/And Finance, which provides education on the intersection of personal and community finance.

Through it, she works to support the growing movement to build economies that actually work for people and our ecosystems.

Rebecca has held jobs in corporate finance, grassroots startup and community finance. She has master’s degrees in public policy and business administration.

Jeremy Kalin is lead attorney in the Impact Counsel practice at Arisen Law. “My life work is mobilizing capital for the public good—from deep sustainability to social enterprise to public investment,” he says.

Kalin brings expertise in leveraging the federal Inflation Reduction Act and was recently involved in the passage of the Minnesota Climate Innovation Finance Authority (our state’s version of a Green Bank).

In the past, Kalin chaired a White House task force on clean energy, climate policy and investment. He also founded a clean energy financing business and served in the Minnesota House of Representatives.

Nkuli Shongwe is director of community wealth building at Nexus, the Community Partners and board vice chair for locally-based Taproot Investment Cooperative.

At Nexus, she supports creation of cooperatively-owned BIPOC-owned real estate in St. Paul.

About the panelists

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Saint Anthony Park Area Seniors

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Mini Golf-On-A-Stick

By Janet Wight

A State Fair-themed miniature golf course is one of the new additions to this year’s Great Minnesota Get-Together.

The whimsical course is the brainchild of Falcon Heights native Jeannie Kenevan, director of marketing and special projects for Can Can Wonderland. This entertainment venue, located in the historic Prior Works Building on Prior Avenue in south St. Anthony Park, offers indoor mini golf, a retro arcade, live entertainment and vibrant decor in its sprawling 35,000-square-foot digs.

Kenevan envisioned the connection between the State Fair and miniature golf, which led her to pitch the concept to the State Fair in 2023; she said.

In early 2023, Can Can was invited to provide a course for a trial run during the annual Kickoff to Summer at the Fair held in May. It was incredibly popular, she said.

In June, State Fair officials notified Can Can Wonderland that its mini golf proposal was approved for this year’s fair, and a location on the north end of the fairgrounds was selected, Kenevan said.

The moveable course features nine holes and is landscaped with decorative State Fair icons including the Giant Slide, Space Tower and Haunted House. Twenty fabricators worked creating its distinctive design, she said.

As many as six can play together, but the layout also works well for singles or smaller groups. The cost is $10 per person, children 3 and under are free with a paid adult.

Since it takes only 20 to 25 minutes to play through the course, this activity could easily be worked into anyone’s standard routine at the Fair, Kenevan said.

The north end location of the course will offer fairgoers the opportunity to step away from the noise and crowds for a tranquil break, she added.

The State Fair’s mascots, Fairborne and Fairchild, are expected to play the course at random times, Kenevan said. Benches will be available for anyone wishing to watch the mini golfers in action.

Social media buffs and photography enthusiasts alike will appreciate the unique photo opportunities provided by the Mini Golf-On-A-Stick course. Golfers will be able to pose with the miniature versions of their favorite State Fair icons, she added.

Mini Golf On-A-Stick will be open daily from 9 a.m. until 10 p.m. (8 p.m. on Labor Day).

Janet Wight is a regular freelance writer for the Bugle.

SAP history series back this fall

By Mary Mergenthaler

The St. Anthony Park history series returns in September with another year of free monthly presentations focused on the neighborhood’s architecture and history.

Sponsored by St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, 2323 Como Ave., and presented by Augsburg University professor Kristin Anderson, the talks are scheduled for 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month. Following each presentation, there will be treats and time to visit.

In addition to the in-person sessions at the church, the presentations will be available live on Zoom, and the recorded talks will be available for about a week.

The talks are scheduled for:

- Oct. 10: St. Anthony Park as a prime example of a Garden Suburb. Beginning in November, the series will focus on housing, starting with the first buildings constructed as the neighborhood emerged in the 1880s. The series will then move ahead by decades in all sessions through April. In May, the final session will look at strategies for doing a house history.

Tickets now on sale at:
- St. Anthony Park Area Seniors office: 2200 Hillside Ave., St. Paul
- Through PayPal or our website: www.sapaseniors.org

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On U’s St. Paul campus, unpacking the story of FarmHouse

By Kathy Henderson

The simple signage—FarmHouse—above the door at 1505 Cleveland Ave. N. stands out amidst the nearby fraternity and sorority houses along Cleveland and Carter avenues in St. Paul that display Greek alphabet letters reflecting such names as Alpha Gamma Rho, Beta of Clivia, Delta Theta Sigma and Lambda Delta Phi.

The lack of Greek letters leads the curious to wonder if FarmHouse is a fraternity, a classroom building, a dorm or something else. A quick check via Google provides links and answers.

University fraternity members William Bosch, Emmanuel Chavira Rodriguez, Ben Deyle and Michael Moline also offered their personal FarmHouse insights for Park Bugle readers.

Here are five FarmHouse facts:

First: FarmHouse is a fraternity.

The fraternity traces its origin to the University of Missouri, where it was established in 1905. The Minnesota Chapter, which was chartered in 1931, has its roots in the Ag Club on the St. Paul campus.

FarmHouse is an acronym for its values: Faith, Ambition, Reverence, Morality, Honesty, Obedience, Unity, Service and Excellence.

Second: The FarmHouse building is much newer and far more contemporary looking than the stately houses of the U’s historic “Fraternity Row” district along University Avenue Southeast in Minneapolis. Built in 2017, with significant contributions from FarmHouse alumni, the current building replaced the former 1960s-era outmoded structure. It was reportedly the first new construction of a Greek house at the U in community in over 50 years.

Similar to the other nearby fraternity and sorority houses, FarmHouse is a large building (36,000 square feet), yet it blends well within the St. Anthony Park neighborhood.

The FarmHouse building, which can accommodate 44 members, had a spring 2023 membership of 31, with a 3.4 accumulative grade-point average, according to the U’s Office for Fraternity and Sorority Life website. That’s equivalent to a B+ letter grade.

“We take good care of our house in large part due to FarmHouse’s dry housing policy, which prohibits the presence of alcohol and drugs in our house,” FarmHouse president Bosch said in an email to the Bugle.

Third: You don’t have to be an agriculture student to join FarmHouse.

“Students of all majors can join FarmHouse,” stated Bosch, who is an agriculture and food business management major. “But because of our agricultural heritage and location on the St. Paul campus, agriculture students make up a little over half of our membership, and many members have some sort of connection to Ag.”

Deyle and Moline are examples of FarmHouse members who are not CFAN students (the U’s College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences). While Deyle, a computer engineering major, and Moline, a finance major, live at FarmHouse, they make use of the U’s Campus Commuter bus system to get to their classes at Minneapolis’ East Bank or West Bank locations.

Fourth: You don’t have to be a farm kid to be recruited by FarmHouse.

Bosch, who has lived at FarmHouse for three years and thinks of it as his “home away from home,” said FarmHouse has three ways to recruit new members:

“Our most successful recruitment method relies on prior knowledge of FarmHouse, whether boasting ornate Greek organization, ‘outreach to new students at the launch of the U’s fall semester on campus,” stated Chavira Rodriguez. “We would like to extend an open invitation to all those in our neighborhood to drop by and get to know us,” Bosch said. “We also host philanthropy events, such as our annual crawfish boil in the spring, which is open to the public, and we would love to see some of our neighbors there!”

More details and a video tour are available at minnesotafh.org.

U of M fraternity and sorority life Fraternity and sorority houses, whether boasting ornate Greek letters or unassuming signage, experience an annual buzz of residents returning and unpacking for the launch of the U’s fall semester classes that start Sept. 5. Kathy Henderson is a freelance writer for the Bugle.
How can you support students and their schools?

By Sarah Clark

How can neighbors and the community support local schools as students return to classes this fall? Responding to that Bugle query, five area administrators offered several ideas.

Andrea Halverson, executive director of Northeast College Prep, said that besides donations of supplies, snacks, time and money; “Remember that September brings school buses and students walking and biking to school. Please watch carefully to help keep our students and their families safe.”

Katharina Schirg, director of International Programs and Communication at the Twin Cities German Immersion School, similarly asked for patience during times of high traffic as students and families get used to school arrival and dismissal procedures. Other administrators mentioned specific needs for supplies or talents.

Beth Behnke, principal of Falcon Heights Elementary, said, “Donations of school supplies are much appreciated. Supplies most needed are sticky notes ("Post-its"), index cards, washable markers, colored pencils, tissues and paper towels.

Karen Duke, principal at St. Anthony Park Elementary, is hoping for some dedicated gardeners and traffic directors. According to Duke, the school’s front gardens and Peace Garden have a plethora of weeds. She invites neighbors to “stop by any time and do a little weeding. Five minutes. Fifteen minutes. It would be great to beautify the school entrance for when families return.”

In addition, if neighbors are interested in helping traffic flow safely during drop-off (6:50-7:30 a.m.) for the first couple weeks of school, Duke would appreciate the help as new families learn and returning families reacquaint themselves with the system for dropping off students.

The principal of Murray Middle School, Jamin McKenzie, also hopes to recruit volunteers from the neighborhood. “If anyone specializes in a talent or has a hobby they are passionate about, consult our after-school program coordinator for possibilities to lead a class for our students. Please contact our Family and Community Engagement Coordinator, Stefanie Folkema at Stefanie.folkema@spps.org.”

Sarah CR Clark lives in St. Anthony Park and is a regular freelance writer for the Bugle.

Back to school events

Compiled by Sarah CR Clark

The Back-to-School season is marked by shiny new lunchboxes, the smell of freshly sharpened pencils, and new teachers’ names to learn is here in full force! Students and their parents are counting down the last days of summer break. Educators are getting their classrooms ready. Most Bugleland students will head back to school on Tuesday, Sept. 5. St. Paul Public Schools head back to school on Tuesday, Aug. 28.

Most Bugleland students will head back to school on Tuesday, Sept. 5. St. Paul Public Schools (such as St. Anthony Park Elementary and Murray Middle School), Roseville Area Schools (Falcon Heights Elementary), The Avalon School, Great River, Hmong Prep Academy, and Northeast College Prep will all begin classes, for most of their students, the day after Labor Day.

Kindergartners traditionally have their first day of school a day or two later. SPPS kindergartners will begin the year on Thursday, Sept. 7, and RAS kindergartners on Wednesday, Sept. 6.

Ten Twin Cities German Immersion School’s students begin the academic year on Monday, Aug. 28.

To help ease the transition from summer to school, many local schools have scheduled Back-to-School events or open houses when students and families can tour classrooms and meet teachers.

Families of Falcon Heights Elementary will be particularly excited for their Back to School Family Event. Principal Beth Behnke explained, “Falcon Heights is completing phase I of a two-year construction project this fall. Phase I has been our classrooms, so we will be welcoming students into renewed spaces.”

Back-to-School events at some local schools

Twin Cities German Immersion School
Aug. 24, Back to School Night from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Northeast College Prep
Aug. 30, Meet the Teacher Night from 6 to 7 p.m.
Murray Middle School
Aug. 31, Camp 6 for sixth graders and their families in the morning.
Aug. 31, Open House for seventh and eighth graders and families in the afternoon.
St. Anthony Park Elementary
Aug. 31, Open House Back to School Night from 5 to 6:30 p.m.
Falcon Heights Elementary
Sept. 14, Back to School Family Event from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Principals’ Back-to-School messages

“I hope that everyone enters SAP School and feels a sense of belonging! We are a vibrant, diverse community. Each learner has special strengths and their own unique life experience, and we hope they feel loved, valued and seen here at school.” — Karen Duke, principal at St. Anthony Park Elementary

“We want our current students and families to continue to lead and strengthen the great things that are happening at Murray. Our staff work to ensure that our young Pilots are able to meet new friends, explore new classes and ultimately have fun while learning and growing. We are excited to welcome our incoming students to our community and are confident that in no time at all YOU will be our future Murray Pilot leaders.” — Jamin McKenzie, principal at Murray Middle School

Sarah CR Clark is a regular contributor to the Bugle.
Getting back in gear with school lunches

By Jenni Wolf

School is back in session and with that brings the return of daily school lunches. Whether your kiddos hit the hot lunch line or “brown bag it” from home, here is what you need to know to ensure they are getting a tasty and balanced midday meal.

St. Paul Public School Lunch program

Like all public schools, St. Paul Public Schools are required to base lunch menus and portions on standards set by the USDA which are part of the national school lunch program.

These standards are in place thanks to the “Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act” of 2010 and continue to be revised frequently to ensure school lunches are staying up-to-date with the latest nutritional guidelines and recommendations for this young population.

A perk of using the national lunch program is that much of the “hard work” of figuring out how to build a balanced plate for your child is done for you.

For example, every school lunch menu must include a daily fruit or vegetable, offer a wide variety of fruit and vegetable types across the week, make sure that 80% of the grains served are whole grains and meet minimum/maximum ranges for other nutrients like fat, protein, carbohydrates and calories.

These guidelines are in place to make sure your children are getting enough fuel for their brains and bodies to learn and grow. The national school lunch program also helps support those children who may not have access to a wide variety of nutritious foods outside of school, making the lunchtime meal an important opportunity to fill in some of those gaps.

As parents, you don’t have to be the one packing the lunch, so encourage your child to try new things from the lunch menu and portions on standards set by the USDA which are national school lunch program also helps support those children who may not have access to a wide variety of nutritious foods outside of school, making the lunchtime meal an important opportunity to fill in some of those gaps.

Focus on packing the food you or children food options and choices when shopping or packing lunches. Of course, your time and budget will set parameters for your school lunch choices too.

Brown bag lunches from home

I don’t yet have kids, but I sure can remember the brown bag days of my childhood. I was responsible for packing my own lunch, and so that in fact, is my first tip! Involve your child in grocery shopping for lunch supplies and also in the packing process. This makes them feel both physically, mentally and emotionally.

If they don’t like a specific hot lunch offering and don’t eat very much of it, perhaps they will learn this leads them to crash and burn at the end of the school day without enough energy and they may be willing to eat more next time.

Include at least one source of grains (carbohydrates), protein, fat, and fiber (fruit/vegetable), and also something “fun.”

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As a parent, give your child or children food options and choices when shopping or packing lunches. Of course, your time and budget will set parameters for your school lunch choices too.

Focus on packing the food groups—include at least one source of grains (carbohydrates), protein, fat, and fiber (fruit/vegetable), and also something “fun.”

I’ve written about “fun foods” in the past. These are foods that help honor needs outside of just “fuel,” like the need to have fun, obviously, but also pleasure, taste enjoyment, a nostalgic memory, etc.

I also consider choosing the best time to pack. Think about what will fit into your family’s and child’s routine. For example, I like to pack when I am already doing some sort of food prep and am already occupied in the kitchen, like during clean-up after dinner or morning breakfast time.

Being realistic about lunches packed from home is important too. In the age of beautifully composed bento boxes and cute cut-out sandwiches gracing social media feeds, it is a helpful reminder that many parents do not have time for that.

If your kids get excited about those touches, then those are great things to do to support them in eating a balanced, healthy meal. If your kids are pleased with a ham and cheese sandwich, trail mix, bag of grapes and a fruit roll-up, then helping them pack those things are what will support them in being nourished.

Happy lunching!

Sources: St. Paul Public Schools, Nutrition Services (spps.org) and USDA Food and Nutrition Service (fnw.usda.gov/nalp).

Jenni Wolf, a registered dietician, writes about food and nutrition for the Bugle.

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Trusted dentist for the
By Gwen Willems
If you see a gentleman blowing a few huge bubbles or numerous lit- tle ones at Hampden Park, stop by and say “Hi” to our neighbor, Larry Ripp, character Sir Sydney Soapington, the Baron of Bubble, likes to practice there. He’s a pop- ular entertainer at birthday parties, block parties, renaissance festivals, ice cream socials, fall festivals and even retirement home gatherings. Ripp, to use his words, produces “fleeting art that floats.”

To book the Baron and the First Lady of Foam (his life partner Vicki-jean), who makes balloon creations, email thebubblebaron@yahoo.com.

This is Ripp’s 14th year creating bubbles as the Baron, in what he calls his side hustle, something he loves doing since his retirement from being a janitor at the Uni- versity of Minnesota. “I just like bubbles!” Ripp said. “They’re so flexible, they can be- come serpentine. Some are per- fectly round, some of them can stretch. It’s like lying on your back and seeing the clouds form special shapes. I look forward to going to every event I have.”

Kids love his bubbles because he has the kind of equipment and soaps to make bubbles as large as refrigerators, doors and even as long as his Impreza vehicle.

Ripp started working with bub- bles when, as an actor, he was doing a play festival in Madison, Wiscon- sin, and went to a toy store. “I got the equipment for my grandson,” he said. “It came with a recipe, so I bought a bucket, mixed up some soap, and went into the motel parking lot. When I made my very first bubble, people pulled out their cameras to take photos.

“The most satisfying thing about doing bubbles is when someone sees me making them for the first time,” Ripp said. “The second most satisfying thing is when a kid makes a bubble. I catch the bubble, I say some special magic words, and when I open my hands, there’s a jewel, and they get to keep the jewel.”

Ripp has different poems and stories to tell during performanc- es and has written a book called, of course, “The Baron of Bubble!”

“I’m the Baron of Bubble be- cause Bubble is a place,” Ripp said. “When a kid asks where I’m from, I point to a cloud in the sky and say, ‘You can’t see it, but on the other side of that cloud is my castle!’”

Gwen Willems lives in Falcon Heights and is a Bugle freelance writer.

Business spotlight: Salon Ling
Owner Ling Yu proved that she beautifies not just people but also places when her Salon Ling at 2095 Como Ave. underwent an extensive renovation in 2017. Yu’s expansion included the ad- dition of three pedicure chairs, a manicure station and three treat- ment rooms (one for massage, one for waxing and one for facials). Hair styling is nothing new for this seasoned hairdresser. A salon owner back in China, Yu and her family moved to Minnesota in 1988. After working as a hair stylist at IC Penney, Yu attended the Aveda Institute where she continued to study both hair and skin care. In 2007, with the support of her fam- ily, Yu opened Salon Ling.

Salon Ling is not Yu’s only place of employment. She styles hair and provides skin care services at an Aveda salon in Inver Grove Heights. She works mornings there, but reserves her afternoon and evening appointments for her St. Anthony Park salon clientele. Yu said she likes working in St. Anthony Park because she is able to serve many of the University of Minnesota students who are also from China.

Yu and her nail artist, Prestemon, an art student, is teaching her mother some of her techniques, which is perfect for Yu who has turned learning about hair, skin and nails into a lifelong passion. To stay up to date, Yu regularly attends hair shows in New York, Chicago, Las Vegas and Florida. When asked what she plans to do in the next five to 10 years, Yu giggled and said, “Well, I did sign an eight year lease. So, this.”

To find out more about Salon Ling, visit salonling.com or call 612-723-6868 if you would like to make an appointment with Yu.

Susan Triemert is a freelance writer for the Bugle.

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The September show features artists—and cousins—Shona Dockter and Beke Kirih. Opening reception on Friday, Sept. 8, 5 to 7 p.m. at the boreal Art Loft, 2276 Como Ave., shop boreal life.

Blood Drive

The St Anthony Park Community Blood Drive will take place on Tuesday, Sept. 5, 1 to 7 p.m. at St Anthony Park Lutheran, 2323 Como Ave. Schedule your time at redcrossblood.org/give.html/find-drive.

Chroma Zone

New murals highlighted and three days of artist-led programs, events and music take place Sept. 14 to 16 in the Creative Enterprise Zone (CEZ) district in the south Saint Anthony Park/Raymond-University neighborhood.

Compiled by Kathy Henderson

The popular and free mural tours run from noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 16. Hop aboard the Can Can Wonderland Putt Putt bus at Dual Citizen Brewing Co., 725 Raymond Ave. You’ll find the complete schedule online at chromazeone.net.

Concert in the Park

Swingin’ on a Star will present music of the Great American Songbook at the Lauderdale Community Park, 1885 Fullum St., from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 7. You are welcome to bring chairs, snacks and beverages. Sponsored by St. Anthony Park Area Seniors and the Falcon Heights-Lauderdale Lions Club.

History revealed: Connecting to collections


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The St Anthony Park Community Blood Drive will take place on Tuesday, Sept. 5, 1 to 7 p.m. at St Anthony Park Lutheran, 2323 Como Ave. Schedule your time at redcrossblood.org/give.html/find-drive.

Chroma Zone

New murals highlighted and three days of artist-led programs, events and music take place Sept. 14 to 16 in the Creative Enterprise Zone (CEZ) district in the south Saint Anthony Park/Raymond-University neighborhood.

Compiled by Kathy Henderson

The popular and free mural tours run from noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 16. Hop aboard the Can Can Wonderland Putt Putt bus at Dual Citizen Brewing Co., 725 Raymond Ave. You’ll find the complete schedule online at chromazeone.net.

Concert in the Park

Swingin’ on a Star will present music of the Great American Songbook at the Lauderdale Community Park, 1885 Fullum St., from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 7. You are welcome to bring chairs, snacks and beverages. Sponsored by St. Anthony Park Area Seniors and the Falcon Heights-Lauderdale Lions Club.

History revealed: Connecting to collections


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Bugle social media contest focused on gratitude

By Laura Adrian

In a world filled with digital connections, harnessing the power of social media to bring our community closer is a delightful endeavor. We’re reaching out to you, our valued readers, to join in the conversation and add your unique perspective!

In July, we embarked on a heartwarming journey known as “Lens of Gratitude.” This initiative invited everyone to embrace life’s beauty by focusing on moments of gratitude. Amidst the constant barrage of news highlighting challenges and deficits, our contest endeavored to shift our gaze towards the positive, ensuring that joy isn’t overlooked.

Our community response was heartening, with participants submitting a total of eight captivating photos. We extend our sincere gratitude to Michael Smith of Carter Frame Shop for stepping forward as the contest judge. Among the stunning submissions, one photograph stood out—an endearing image of two siblings at the headwaters of the Mississippi River, captured by Deanna Spanjers. As a token of appreciation for their wonderful contribution, the talented duo will be awarded two complimentary passes to the whimsical world of Can Can Wonderland. Additionally, they will enjoy two free mini-golf sessions at this charming venue, all thanks to the generous donation from Can Can Wonderland.

We’re thrilled to showcase the remaining entries on our social media platforms, celebrating the creativity and gratitude that reside within our community. If you’re a local business eager to play a role in future contests by donating prizes, we warmly welcome your participation. Reach out to Laura at laura.adrian@parkbugle.org to explore the possibilities.

Together, through the lens of gratitude and the power of community, we can continue to foster connections that enrich our lives. Stay tuned for more initiatives and engaging conversations right here in the Park Bugle newspaper.

Laura Adrian is the social media specialist for the Bugle.
This month we remember five Murray high school grads, two women fond of skiing, a long-time former Luther Seminary professor and the untimely death of a local doctor.

Adair Anderson
Adair Elizabeth Anderson, 80, attended Murray High School, class of 1961. She graduated with a teaching degree from Mankato State University.

Adair was a lifelong Camp Fire Girl. At her beloved Camp Ojiketa, she was a camper, counselor, canoe trip and Counselor in Training (CIT) director, and later helped to preserve the camp as a park.

Adair loved to downhill ski. She was active in the Tuesday Wipe Outs and No Ski Clubs. She instilled a love of skiing in her family and traveled the world to ski including Austria, Switzerland, Canada and the U.S.

She is survived by her husband Charles Anderson of Lakeville, daughter Valerie (Brian) Anderson of Lakeville, son Ross (Aman- da) Anderson of Woodbury, sister Heather (Dennis) Finden of South Saint Paul and four grandchildren. She was predeceased by her parents Henry and Charlotte Murphy.

Her service has been held. Memorials preferred to JDRF (Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation).

Susan Bulger Chelstrom
Sue graduated from St. Anthony Park Junior-Senior High School (class of 1967). She sang in the choir and joins the lead in school musicals.

Sue had a beautiful singing voice, and joined in many a road trip sing along. At heart, Billy was an artist and a maker. He was accepted and completed the MN Nice Fellowship in 2020 through the Northern Clay Center where he clarified his creative expression. Billy shared studio and gallery space at the Northrup King Building in North- east Minneapolis, where he crafted and sold his pottery.

Sue was a long-time member of the Minnesota Society of Friends. She rode RAGBRAI, a group ride across the state of Iowa.

Sue died of cancer in Idaho on July 7, 2023. She is survived by her husband, Robert Novak, sons Elliot and Oliver. He had a beautiful singing voice, and joined in many a road trip sing along. At heart, Billy was an artist and a maker. He was accepted and completed the MN Nice Fellowship in 2020 through the Northern Clay Center where he clarified his creative expression. Billy shared studio and gallery space at the Northrup King Building in North- east Minneapolis, where he crafted and sold his pottery.

Sue and her husband relocated to Boise, Idaho in 1993. She worked in construction accounting and cash management. She opened her own business providing bookkeeping, accounting and cash management services to small businesses.

Sue and Chel spent a lifetime skiing, climbing, hiking, bicycling, canoeing, traveling and exploring together. She trained and raced slalom and giant slalom with Buck Hill’s women’s group. She loved classic, ski, and backcountry cross-country skiing.

Sue was a statistic in the journal “Accidents in North America Mountainairing.” She once triggered and successfully rode an avalanche while on a guided backcountry ski tour in the Purcell Mountains of British Columbia. Sue also enjoyed boating and fishing at her family’s property in Sioux Narrows, Ontario. She loved extended canoe trips in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and on the rivers of Minnesota, Idaho and the West.

Sue helped build trails in the Boise foothills and at Bogus Bas- sin. She helped build and maintain four yurts and many miles of trails at the Idaho City Park ‘N Ski area.

Sue is survived by her husband, Thomas Paul “Chef” Chelstrom. Memorials to Sue may be made to Winter Wildlands Alliance, SnowSchool or to your favorite conservation/ outdoor recreation organization.

Roy Harrisville

Roy was preceded in death by his wife Norma. He is survived by his children Randi (Bradley) Lundell, Roy (Mary) Harrisville, III, Lars (Christie) Harrisville, Carol (Da- vid) Young, nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Funeral service was held, with internment at Lakewood Cemetery. Memorials preferred to Lyngblom- sten Foundation.

William Hicks
William “Billy” Brent Hicks died July 25, 2023, at the age of 51. He was on his bike, under expansive Iowa skies, doing what he loved with those he loved.

Billy was born June 4, 1972, in Des Moines, Iowa, to William and Lynda (Aspely) Hicks. He moved as an infant to Sibley, Iowa, where he grew up and attended elemen- tary through high school.

He earned many hours as a boy playing outside, down at the creek, and in the barn. In high school, he was involved in many activities and developed lifelong friendships.

Billy earned his undergradu- ate degree at Wartburg College in Waverly, Iowa, and then attended medical school at the University of Iowa in Iowa City. He served in pediatrics in St. Cloud for five years, before pursuing a fellow- ship in Allergy and Immunology in Michigan.

He was a well-liked loving physician in the HealthEast care system, more recently with Alli- na Health. He was kind, support- ive and appreciative of those he worked with, in clinics, and pos- itively influenced those around him.

He was known to his patients as a person who really listened to them and explained health con- cerns in an accessible manner.

Billy loved being with his boys. Even after sleep-deprived 36-hour shifts during his medical residency, Billy chose to play blocks or fo- r the boys as they ran outside rather than nap when he came home. As his sons grew, he enjoyed playing chess and tennis with them and drawing with Oliver. He had a

The couple lived in Texas and Nebraska during Kim’s Air Force service. Anne received a master of liberal arts political science degree from the University of Nebraska. During Kim’s graduate time at Princeton, Anne worked as a re- search assistant.

She moved to Minnesota when Kim joined the faculty of the His- tory Department at the University of Minnesota. They developed a close community of dear friends and colleagues in St. Anthony Park. Kim’s research offered Anne the opportunity to live and raise their family in a true francophone. Anne loved to share her passion for Paris with friends or the whirl of Europe. She fell in love with Paris.

Anne graduated from the Interna- tional Center Design and as a do- cent at the Walker Art Center.

Anne is survived by her brother, Leighton Hazlehurst; son Chris (Krisy), daughter Sophie (John), Porter; and three grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband of 63 years, Kim; her par- ents, and sister, Jean Mead (Rob).

The family is planning a celebra- tion of life for early fall.

Barbara Myhr
Barbara A. Myhr, 94, Falcon Heights, died July 16, 2023. She is survived by her children Nor- man (Ann), Susan (John) Mueller, Stephen (Christine), four grand- children and seven great-grandchild- ren. Service was held at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church in Como Park.

Robert Novak
Robert Novak, 63, died unexpectedly July 18, 2023. He worked for the

To add your place of worship to the directory, contact Raul Salter at 651-408-8404 or raul.salter@parkbugle.org

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The Park Bugle prints obituaries free of charge as a service to our communities. Send information about deaths to Mary Mergenthal at mary.mergenthal@gmail.com or call 612-670-8510.

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2129 Commonwealth (at Chelmsford), 651-646-7173
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2323 Como Ave West, 651-645-1071
(Starting Sept. 13) Call for times.
(Starting Sept. 13) Free will offering.
Sundays at 10:30 am in person and via Zoom
Community Dinner: Wednesdays: 5-6:30 pm
(Starting Sept. 6) Call for times.
Tuesday Dinner: 5-6:30 pm
Church Chapel Bistro: Wednesdays: 7 pm
A service was held. Memorials preferred to Lyngblom- sten Health. He was kind, support- ive and appreciative of those he worked with, in clinics, and pos- itively influenced those around him.

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Lives Lived from p. 14

the City of St. Paul for 49 years. A graduate of St Paul Murray High School, Bob lived in Falcon Heights and grew up in Como Park. He spent time volunteering for various organizations, enjoyed traveling all over Europe, gardening and spending time at his cabin.

Bob was preceded in death by his parents Roger and Barbara. He is survived by brothers Tom (Julie), Mark and Bill (Teresa).

Service has been held, with burial at Roselawn Cemetery.

Jon Pearson

A graduate of Murray High School, Jon excelled in athletics, mainly tennis and hockey.

Jon was preceded in death by his father, John Pearson, known as Jack when he was a science teacher and hockey coach at Murray High School. He is survived by his mother Beverly; and siblings Joe, Jim and Amy.

Laurie Laun Shaffer
Laurie Laun Shaffer (Murray class of 1975 and St. Anthony Park Elementary) died of cancer March 25, 2023. She had been living in Renton, Washington.

Laurie is survived by her husband Gene and son, Matt.
By Eric Erickson, Sports analysis

Fall sports teams across the state are already in action. At Como Park, the fall season includes boys and girls soccer, boys and girls cross country running, girls tennis, girls swimming, girls volleyball and football. Before any student-athlete can participate, they need the approval of the athletic director.

A current sports physical must be on file, a state eligibility form must be signed, a participation fee must be paid (or an initial deposit made) and academic credits must be checked to ensure each student is on track for graduation.

The administrative paperwork is just the beginning of an athletic director’s responsibility.

Koua Yang is entering his sixth year as the A.D. for Como. His previous work in St. Paul included 16 years as a teacher and coach at Harding, followed by two years as an administrator there. In the 1990s, Yang was a Como student and multi-sport athlete. Yang is rightfully proud of his Cougar roots as well as the positive vibes currently experienced at his alma mater. Along with assistant athletic director Brandon Kuether, they will supervise more than 30 events on campus during the fall season. That will include a homecoming tripleheader featuring football, girls soccer and boys soccer on Saturday, Oct. 7. In this interview with the Bugle, Yang provided insight about the upcoming year of Cougar athletics.

Q: As you begin your sixth year as Como’s A.D., what’s something different about the job than what you imagined when you started?
A: One of the most surprising things I learned was there was no budget support from the school district. I inherited whatever was in the budget from the previous years, which wasn’t much. On the bright side, I get to be the ultimate fan of my students in all sports – not just the ones I coached when I was teaching and coaching.

Q: What do you enjoy about being the A.D.?
A: Being an A.D. gives me a wider lens into all the sports. I appreciate the opportunity to build a support system around athletics for students. Having the ability to give back to my former school and community that shaped who I am today is extremely rewarding.

Q: What would you consider to be the strengths of the Como athletic program?
A: Many of our students are multi-sport athletes and everyone has the opportunity to contribute in a variety of ways. Como, as a school, feels most like a close-knit family than some of the larger schools.

Q: What are some of the challenges or issues for Como athletics going forward?
A: Because our school district (SSPS) is so large, we have to divide our resources and talents. Como faces similar challenges to other smaller schools and districts around the state with capital improvements. We are slowly fundraising to close the gap for our community.

Q: What’s the status of the new tennis courts that retired coach Kathy Dumas donated?
A: It is a complicated process. In a nutshell, the courts will be re-constructed (not resurfaced) in the summer of 2024. We have to be better at honoring the generous gift from our generous coach and colleague with our timeline, which was originally set for the courts to be completed by this fall.

Q: For the 2023-24 school year, are there any new initiatives or activities you’re excited about?
A: One of the new initiatives for the whole state (in basketball) is the addition of the shot clock. Our shot clocks (at Como) were recently installed and are ready for the winter season.

Q: Final question: What advice would you give to Como’s student-athletes?
A: Find a way to participate in the activities offered at Como Park. We hope to bring your friends along. Get your friends and families to the contests and events to support our community.

Eric Erickson is a social studies teacher at Como Park High School.

The fall sports season will include at least 20 games on the Como field, with a homecoming tripleheader scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 7. Photo submitted by Eric Erickson.
Leo Scroggins
Leo Neal Scroggins, 70, died July 18, 2023.
Leo was preceded in death by his first wife, Joanie; second wife, Mary; daughter, Amy Warner; and his parents, Merlyn and Bernadine. He is survived by his daughter JaMee (Chandler) Ulrich; two grandchildren and siblings, Michael, Mark (Julie), and Gloria (Steve) Kerr; and special friend, Rosemary Arnholt.

Mass of Christian Burial was held at Church of the Holy Childhood, with burial at Roselawn Cemetery. Memorials preferred to Our Lady of Peace Hospice.