



SAP Arts  
Festival

Page 8



Transition  
Town

Page 10



Athena athlete

Page 16

PRSRD STD  
US POSTAGE PAID  
TWIN CITIES, MN  
PERMIT NO. 30308

Park Press, Inc.  
P.O. Box 8126  
Saint Paul, MN 55108

Your  
award-winning,  
nonprofit  
community  
resource

# Park Bugle

St. Anthony Park / Como Park  
Falcon Heights / Lauderdale

parkbugle.org  
June 2026

## Citizens hear plans for HealthPartners' Como clinic site

By Zev Radziwill

One of St. Anthony Park's most familiar neighborhood institutions is preparing for a major transition. At its May meeting, the St. Anthony Park Community Council (SAPCC) Land Use Committee hosted representatives from HealthPartners to hear their plans to redevelop the longtime Como Clinic site near Como Avenue and Eustis Street.

After nearly 70 years of service at its current location, the Como Clinic will eventually be replaced with a significantly larger facility offering expanded medical services.

HealthPartners Vice President of Real Estate, Planning and Construction Alan Kranzo outlined project timelines, design concepts and the vision for a larger new facility to be constructed just north of the current clinic site.

Construction is anticipated to begin this summer, with the new clinic expected to open in fall 2027. HealthPartners representatives said the existing clinic will remain open throughout construction.

According to HealthPartners, the future clinic will expand services available within the neighborhood, including primary care, urgent care, pediatrics, dentistry, cardiology, endocrinology, OB-GYN services, advanced CT and MRI capabilities and a new TRIA Orthopedics Clinic and Urgent Care.

The Como clinic holds a special place within the neighborhood and Minnesota health care history.



The District 12 Land Use Committee hosted representatives from HealthPartners to hear plans to redevelop the Como Clinic site. Photo courtesy District 12 Community Council.

Opened in 1957 as part of the former Group Health system, the clinic helped launch what would eventually become HealthPartners and has served generations of patients and families in St. Anthony Park and surrounding communities.

The HealthPartners presentation drew strong interest from neighbors and committee members, reflecting both the importance of the clinic within the community and the scale of the proposed redevelopment.

During the meeting, neighbors

and committee members asked questions about traffic flow and access onto Como Avenue, pedestrian safety, landscaping, watershed impacts, sustainability features and how the proposed parking structure may interact with the surrounding neighborhood.

The biggest area of discussion centered on the parking structure, including its placement, visibility from nearby streets and how vehicles would move through the site. Early plans call for about 250 parking spaces, with structured parking incorporated into the redevelopment.

HealthPartners representatives noted that multiple traffic and access concepts had been explored during the design process. They also noted ongoing conversations

HealthPartners Como clinic to p. 4

## Music on the lawn series is back

By Mary Mergenthal  
and Scott Carlson

St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church is hosting outdoor music this summer organized and hosted by SAP residents Paul and Kim Durkee.

Musicians play on a stage on the side lawn of SAPLC. Luther Place will be partially blocked off from Como Avenue to the Zvago housing co-op driveway, allowing seating on the street and the large Luther Seminary lawn.

SAPLC offers use of indoor bathrooms and electricity to host these concerts.

All concerts start at 6 p.m. and finish by 8 p.m. Here is the lineup for the summer concerts:

- June 2, Sarah Morris & the Sometimes Guys
  - June 11, Swingin' on a Star
  - July 24, The Jimmys
  - Aug. 11, Scottie Miller Band
  - Aug. 26, Leslie Vincent Band
  - Sept. 10, Dan Israel Band
  - Oct. 9, JW Jones
- Due to weather concerns, this concert will be held at the Blues Saloon, 1638 Rice St.

This season of Front Lawn concerts is the seventh year the Durkees have organized and hosted these music events.

Front Lawn concerts, which



The Jimmys performing on May 21, 2025. Photo from Paul Durkee.

have been held since October 2020, have become a way for the neighbors of Grantham Street and the wider local community to connect through music. The concept arose from the isolation of the pandemic, when music could no longer be played and enjoyed safely indoors.

The Durkees came upon a unique solution. "We knew of some bands and musicians and we said, 'Hey, we can do this in our front yard,'" Paul said in a 2024 Bugle story.

After that, they hosted four times in the fall of 2020 and then eight in the summer of 2021.

Now the front lawn concerts have become a summer staple in SAP with avid community support. In six years of summer shows, the Front Lawn concerts have attract-

ed 55 bands and more than 250 musicians, drawing an estimated combined attendance of more than 16,000 people, said Paul Durkee.

To date, the concerts have raised more than \$136,000 for bands.

A Bugle story in 2024 noted, "Despite being compensated through tips, musicians usually have received no less than \$1,100, with some earning up to \$4,600."

For further information on this summer's Front Lawn concerts, please contact Paul or Kim Durkee at 612-889-0748. ■

Mary Mergenthal is a former editor of the Bugle; Scott Carlson is current managing editor of the Bugle. This story also contains material from a 2024 Bugle story

## CITY FILES

## St. Anthony Park and Como community councils news

District 10  
Community Council

## Annual report, election results

The District 10 board held its annual election in April, and also presented its 2025 annual report detailing its activities over the past year. The report can be found at District 10's website, [district10comopark.org](http://district10comopark.org).

Incumbent board members John Waelti (Subdistrict 1), Dan Edgerton (Subdistrict 2), Abby Gold (Subdistrict 2), Jonathan Herum (Subdistrict 2, Senior Seat), Lizzy Cantley (Subdistrict 3), Patrick Cotter (Subdistrict 4, Renter seat) and Matthew Kleist (Subdistrict 4) were re-elected.

New members to the board are Dana Hagemann (Subdistrict 2) and Joe Adcock (Subdistrict 4, Renter Seat).

Board officers appointed for 1-year terms are Maggie Zimmerman as board chair, Matthew Kleist as vice chair, Abby Gold as treasurer and Lizzy Cantley as secretary.

## Como Homo Hangout on June 28

It's time for the sixth annual Como Homo Pride Celebration! This event, scheduled from noon to 3 p.m. on June 28 at Como Lakeside Pavilion, offers the chance to come together and celebrate Pride Month. Join us for social activities, kids' crafts, games, community connections and much more!

For further information, contact

[organizer@district10comopark.org](mailto:organizer@district10comopark.org). For updates, visit [district10comopark.org/ComoHomo](http://district10comopark.org/ComoHomo).

## Meeting archive

Most of District 10's community meetings are recorded and are available on our website at [District10ComoPark.org/Recorded-Presentations](http://District10ComoPark.org/Recorded-Presentations).

A few highlights, so far, from 2026 include:

- Pollinator pathways heavy metal soil analysis results – May 6
- McMurray field and stormwater project – April 1
- Maryland Avenue corridor project introduction – April 1
- St. Paul Climate Plan update and utility franchise agreements – March 18
- North Dale field improvements – March 4
- Chelsea Heights safe routes to school update – Feb. 18
- Evie Carshare intro – Feb. 18

Como Park annual  
ice cream social coming

Every year, the District 10 Como Community Council plans its ice cream social, featuring free ice cream, live music, meet-and-greets with neighborhood organizations and activities for children and families.

This year's social is scheduled for 5:30 to 8 p.m. on July 10 at the

Historic Streetcar Station in Como Park, 1224 Lexington Parkway N. Because parking is limited, community members are encouraged to walk, bike, roll, car-pool, or take public transportation.

Find out more at [district10comopark.org/IceCreamSocial](http://district10comopark.org/IceCreamSocial).

## Upcoming District 10 meetings

District 10 meetings are hybrid on Zoom and at the Como Streetcar Station, 1224 Lexington Parkway. You can find meeting details at [District10ComoPark.org](http://District10ComoPark.org).

- District 10 Como community meetings: 7 p.m. on Wednesdays, June 3 and 17
- Social, nonbusiness meeting at Half-Time Rec: 6 p.m. on Wednesday, June 10

All D10 community meetings are open to the public and include time for community members to bring topics up for discussion.

Submitted by District 10 executive director Shevek McKee.

District 12  
Community CouncilProposed changes  
to Metro Transit H Line

More than 50 neighbors gathered in May to discuss the future of transit along Como Avenue at a meeting hosted by the District 12 Community Council and Metro Transit about the proposed Metro H Line.

The District 12 Transportation Committee meeting brought together residents, business owners, Metro Transit staff, St. Paul Public Works and a Ward 4 City Council representative to discuss how the proposed Bus Rapid Transit project could shape transportation and daily life in St. Anthony Park.

Metro Transit representatives said the proposed H Line project would bring faster and more frequent service to the corridor through upgraded stations, fewer stops, transit signal priority and enhanced rider amenities.

The H Line is planned to connect downtown Minneapolis, the University of Minnesota, Como Avenue, Maryland Avenue and White Bear Avenue before ending at Sun Ray Transit Center in St. Paul.

One of the strongest themes raised during the conversation was concern about the future of transit connections between north St. Anthony Park and downtown St. Paul. Many neighbors spoke about the importance of maintaining a reliable "one-seat ride" downtown for students, workers, seniors and residents who regularly rely on Route 3 service.

Attendees also raised questions about future transfers, accessibility during winter months, stop spacing, preservation of mature trees along Como Avenue, impacts to local businesses and parking and how future bike infrastructure could fit alongside the project.

A significant portion of the discussion focused on the proposed station location near Doswell Avenue in the north St. Anthony Park business district. Neighbors and business representatives expressed concerns about the possible loss of trees and parking spaces, as well as how station placement could affect nearby storefronts and outdoor seating areas.

Following the meeting and additional community input, District 12 submitted formal comments to Metro Transit supporting improved transit investment while

outlining recommendations on station placement, bike infrastructure, tree and parking preservation, and maintaining strong connections to downtown St. Paul.

Among the recommendations, District 12 urged Metro Transit to consider relocating the proposed north St. Anthony Park station from Doswell Avenue to Carter Avenue. It also encouraged continued planning coordination around a future separated bike path along Como Avenue.

SAPCC also recommended studying an additional station near Buford Avenue to support future redevelopment near Luther Seminary and extending the proposed Route 66 farther west to maintain stronger transit connections for neighborhood residents.

While Metro Transit's formal public comment period on the draft corridor plan has concluded, further refinements on the project are expected to continue as the H Line moves into future design and engineering phases.

Metro Transit's current project schedule anticipates planning work continuing through 2026, followed by design work in 2026–27 and potential construction in 2028–29.

More information about the Metro H Line project is available at [metrotransit.org/h-line-project](http://metrotransit.org/h-line-project).

## Upcoming District 12 meetings

District 12 encourages neighbors to attend monthly committee meetings, available in-person and online. Learn more at [sapcc.org](http://sapcc.org).

- Land Use Committee: 7 p.m. on Thursday, June 4
- District 12 Board: 7 p.m. on Thursday, June 11
- Environment Committee: 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 24
- Equity Committee: 6:30 p.m. on Monday, June 29
- Transportation Committee: 7 p.m. on Tuesday, June 30

Submitted by District 12 executive director Zev Radziwill.

boreal  
GIFTS & GOODS

1-651-560-9900

[f](https://www.facebook.com/boreal.life) [i](https://www.instagram.com/boreal.life) [♥](https://www.heart.com/boreal.life) [boreal.life](https://www.boreal.life)

Mon-Sat 10-6

Sunday 10-5



## Now in Roseville!

Happy Hour Everyday 3:00-6:00pm  
\$2.00 Off Appetizers • \$3.00 Drinks

KARTA THAI

Order online at  
[KartaThai.com](http://KartaThai.com)

651-756-7173  
1889 Perimeter Drive, Roseville  
Drive-through and pickup available



TAX CAT CONSULTING, LLC

- ✓ Bookkeeping
- ✓ Payroll
- ✓ Business Taxes
- ✓ Individual Taxes

We specialize in personal taxes, individuals with side gigs, local businesses, and rental properties. Small business taxes done by a small business.

[www.taxcatconsulting.com](http://www.taxcatconsulting.com) | 651.797.4603

# Falcon Heights clarifies public land rules

By Anne Holzman

Here's a roundup of recent actions, discussions and decisions from the Falcon Heights City Council:

### Clarifying public land rules

As redevelopment of the Les Bolstad golf course is considered, the Falcon Heights City Council moved in May to clarify ownership of parkland within developments. Under the city's existing code, the council can require developers either to set aside parkland for public use or pay a fee to replace it elsewhere in the city (to build a new playground, for example). This requirement applies in residential and some business areas. At its May 13 meeting, the council discussed code changes spec-

ifying that set-aside parkland is city-owned. Council members asked whether land could be privately owned but publicly accessible, as when a trail passing a property owned by a homeowners' association (HOA) is open to the public. City Administrator Jack Linehan noted there's an advantage to the city when an HOA maintains the trail. Council members sought clearer language ensuring public access. **Construction coming at Hamline and Hoyt** Travelers near Chelsea Heights Elementary School may notice construction this summer at the intersection of Hamline and Hoyt avenues, where pedestrian safety improvements are underway.

As part of Safe Routes to School efforts, the cities of St. Paul and Falcon Heights are improving the intersection for pedestrians. A 2022 joint powers agreement between the cities secured federal funding to launch the project. The Falcon Heights City Council reviewed the plan in May and approved funding estimated at \$19,000 to cover 25% of the remaining cost. **Parking enforcement during State Fair may change** Parking on Falcon Heights streets near the Minnesota State Fairgrounds will be subject to a daily fee again this year. The city council is considering shifting parking violations from criminal to civil citations.

Instead of receiving a county court summons, a violator would appear for a hearing with a judge hired by the city. Linehan said the city paid police overtime for police parking enforcement last summer. Between overtime savings and not being charged by the county for court, "the revenue gain would pay for the staffing" needed to run the program, Linehan said. The council agreed to hold a public hearing on the question, likely at its June 10 meeting. ■ *Anne Holzman is a Twin Cities freelance writer who covers local government for the Bugle.*

# Lauderdale hiring architect for proposed cannabis business

By Anne Holzman

Lauderdale officials reviewed pitches for a cannabis dispensary from architecture firms during the winter months and were preparing in May to recommend one firm to the city council, although no agenda had been set by midmonth. The dispensary would be built on a city-owned lot at 2430 Larpenteur Ave. The city council voted in February 2025 to explore the use of the lot for a municipal cannabis business. Hiring an archi-

tect is a step toward determining whether the business would be financially advantageous for the city. Neighboring businesses have also expressed interest in buying the property. Planning consultant Jennifer Haskamp told the council in 2025 that the area would likely attract a cannabis business and that state law requires the city to allow at least one. Setting up a municipal business has the potential to meet local market demand, Haskamp indicated.

In mid-May, Lauderdale City Administrator Heather Butkowski said Lauderdale still had not committed to proceeding with the municipal cannabis business. "The architect will create a concept plan and cost estimate," Butkowski said. "After receiving the cost estimate, the council will decide whether it makes sense financially to keep moving forward." ■ *Anne Holzman is a Twin Cities freelance local government writer for the Bugle.*

## Elmhurst Cemetery



**Questions regarding cremation options?**

We have many beautiful & affordable memorial options for your family. Call for a no-obligation appointment.

1510 Dale Street North, Saint Paul, MN 55117  
**651-489-1707 | elmhurstcemetery.org**

Serving the community since

### 1858

## HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS

**St. Anthony Park Dental Care**  
2278 Como Avenue  
Nate Cogswell, DDS  
Allison Forbes, DDS  
Brad Nozzarella, DDS  
Nadine Yacoub, DDS  
Phone/Text: 651-644-9216  
frontdesk@sapdentalcare.com

**Skon Chiropractic**  
651-644-3900 • www.skonchiro.com

*To add your business to this listing, contact Sonia Ellis:  
sonia.ellis@parkbugle.org or (651) 226 1274 (voice message/text)*



DISTRICT 12 | SAINT PAUL

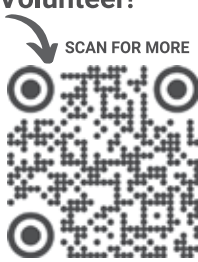
Get Involved, Get Connected  
— We're Your District Council.

Learn More:  
www.sapcc.org



## MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS!

Sign-up & Volunteer!



SCAN FOR MORE



## Get the BUZZ on the Real Estate Market

*Informed answers. No pressure. Let's connect!*



**kw KELLER WILLIAMS. INTEGRITY REALTY**  
Colleen Healy, Licensed Real Estate Agent  
ColleenHealy@kw.com  
612-232-5900



Each office is independently owned and operated.

# Park Bugle

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

## Managing Editor

Scott Carlson  
651-646-5369  
editor@parkbugle.org

## Freelance writers

Sarah CR Clark, Eric Erickson,  
Kathy Henderson, Anne Holzman  
and Janet Wight

## Freelance photographers

Eric Erickson, Jenni Burg  
and Janet Wight

## Obituaries Editor

Mary Mergenthal  
612-670-8510  
mary.mergenthal@gmail.com

## Subscriptions & billing

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

## Event submissions

calendar@parkbugle.org

## Copy editor

Bill Brady

## Proofreader

Mary Hegge

## Social Media Specialist

Laura Adrian

## Webmaster

Jenny Plott

## Graphics/Layout/Design

EH Design

## Advertising Sales Representatives

Sonia Ellis  
651-226-1274  
sonia.ellis@parkbugle.org

Roadl Sateren  
651-468-4040  
roadl.sateren@parkbugle.org

## Classified advertising

classifieds@parkbugle.org

**Next deadline: June 10, 2026**

**Publication date: June 23, 2026**

**Distribution: 5 to 10 business days**

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

Opinions expressed in the Bugle by the editor, writers and contributors do not necessarily represent the opinions of the board of directors, Park Press, Inc. Copyright 2025, Park Press, Inc. All rights reserved.

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

Currently serving on the board are:  
Jennine N. Duda, Allison Eklund,  
Mark Gudmastad,  
Moses Hungiapuko, Steve Plagens,  
Seth Richardson, Andy Sackreiter,  
Ian Wreisner

Facebook Instagram X @parkbugle  
TikTok park\_bugle

## EDITORIAL

### From the desk of the editor

By Scott Carlson

#### Bugle "Happenings" are here

Starting this month, the Bugle is launching a new social media feature we are calling "Happenings."

You will be able to find "Happenings" on Bugle Facebook and other social media, according our social media specialist Laura Adrian.

"On the second Tuesday of each month, we'll share a curated list of upcoming events—concerts, poetry readings, festivals and more," Laura says. "It's an easy way to stay connected to what's happening around Bugleland. You can find these on our Facebook, Instagram and X pages. From small gatherings to larger events, we look forward to highlighting ways people come together in our community."

Items from "Happenings" will serve as a key cornerstone of the Bugle's ramped-up email newsletter, which we soon hope to publish at least once a week.

Our new email newsletter will replace Midpoint Report, which for the past couple of years has

been a mid-month web report with local news and information published between our monthly print editions. We are working to make the Bugle more online-friendly.

Besides featuring a variety of news on upcoming concerts, social activities, plays, art shows, programs etc., our weekly email newsletter will enable us the opportunity to cover more breaking news, when its appropriate.

#### Wither the Chroma Zone Mural & Art festival?

One of south St. Anthony Park's signature events is the annual Chroma Zone Mural & Art Festival.

The early forecast is the seventh annual festival is probably going to be a bit smaller than its 2025 version overall.

"If I reach my fundraising goal, we will produce 6+ new murals by local and national artists, and host an artist talk, tours and other TBD activities," said Angela Casselton, executive director of the Creative Enterprise Zone, the nonprofit

organization that founded what has become Minnesota's largest mural and art festival. "We intend to announce our line-up and walls in late June."

Casselton expects the CEZ will move all mural production to late August and early September and stage public activities in mid-September.

Last year, the CEZ funded the festival with nine new murals, adding to a growing collection of public art throughout the district. Currently, there are about 75 wall murals across the CEZ, an area bounded by Interstate 94 to the south, Prior Avenue on the east, the Energy Park Drive railroad tracks to the north and the Minneapolis city line to the west.

Although Casselton noted she is no longer working full time for the CEZ, she is back "to making the mural festival a team effort with our original two creative partners—Forecast Public Art and Burlesque of North America—along with others to help with mural production, artist hospitality and events.



"Given these challenging and distracted times, it would certainly have been easier not to do another festival," Casselton said. "But where would that leave us?"

"Our artists and our communities benefit from public art and connection. What a gift! We need art now more than ever. We have created an outdoor gallery that is unique and accessible with 74+ murals. Why stop now when 'our village' is recognizing the need and lending its support?" ■

Scott Carlson is the managing editor of the Bugle.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

#### Responding to quiz

Dear Editor:

I'm writing in response to an article on page 18 of the May 2026 edition, "Are you a bona fide St. Anthony Park resident?"

As a life-long resident of SAP, I met the criteria to be automatically "bona fide," but I found the quiz disturbing.

My score on the quiz was only five out of 13. I imagined that someone who rents their home, didn't grow up in north St. Anthony Park, is not white, can't afford to shop at local businesses or lives in another area of Bugle circulation would answer "yes" to even fewer items.

The descriptions of the various scoring levels included: "If you scored zero, you are, figuratively and literally, a placeholder, but welcome

to the neighborhood." That feels like very unwelcoming language to many of our neighbors. It struck me as a not-too-subtle message: "You are probably not one of us."

The Park Bugle circulates to about 11,000 people in four regions. In 2024 (the most recent data published by Compass MN), 33% of the people in St. Anthony Park were people of color. Sixty-one percent of the households were renter-occupied, and 35% of the households were cost-burdened. Twenty percent of households have income under \$50,000 (150% of the federal poverty line).

The student bodies of St. Anthony Park Elementary and Murray Middle Schools are even more racially diverse, with even lower average income levels.

We are part of a vibrant and growing city. If we embrace that diversity, we must make the welcome explicit and avoid language that could exclude people.

I know there are many efforts to change the reputation of exclusivity that has hung over SAP for decades. I feel much hope as people all over the city navigate the tension between beloved traditions and embracing new diversity. I applaud the Bugle for reporting on many of those efforts in all of the neighborhoods it serves.

But in the future, I hope that the newspaper will be more careful to avoid language that could alienate or exclude many readers.

Karen Duke  
St. Anthony Park

#### HealthPartners Como clinic from p. 1

with Lutheran Social Service regarding possible shared access coordination between nearby properties to help minimize traffic impacts and improve circulation in the area.

Meeting attendees also raised questions about future uses for the existing clinic site, which HealthPartners representatives said might eventually be sold for redevelopment after their new facility is completed.

Following the official presentation, committee members and neighbors continued a broader conversation about how the redevelopment could fit within the character of St. Anthony Park.

Community members discussed opportunities for public art, expanded green space, artistic bicycle racks and other neighborhood-oriented design elements. Several attendees also expressed interest in sustainable design features such as additional tree planting, dark-sky friendly lighting and the possibility of solar infrastructure as part of the redevelopment.

While District 12 committee members acknowledged the complexity involved in designing a large, modern medical facility, several neighbors said they wished there had been opportunities for earlier community engagement during the design process.

"The discussion reflected how much people care about this site and its future within the neighborhood," said Allan Torstenson, co-chair of the District 12 Land Use Committee. "People recognize the importance of the clinic and want to make sure that a project of this scale fits thoughtfully into the surrounding community."

Residents interested in following the project can attend future District 12 Land Use Committee meetings or visit sapcc.org for updates. ■

Zev Radziwill is executive director of the St. Anthony Park District 12 Community Council.

## Your award-winning, nonprofit community resource

### Help us tell stories that matter!

Send your story ideas or news tips to  
[editor@parkbugle.org](mailto:editor@parkbugle.org)

### Story guidelines

Send your submission to [editor@parkbugle.org](mailto:editor@parkbugle.org). Your article, story or letter should be sent in Times New Roman, 16-point font. Articles are subject to space availability.

Please include your name and phone number in case we have any questions on your submission. Thank you.

### Bugle deadlines

Here are our Bugle deadlines for the next three issues. We appreciate when writers and readers submit articles early.

Please note that publication dates reflect when papers go out for delivery; mail delivery may take several business days.

Bulk drop-offs of the paper are usually completed two to three days after publication.

#### July: Graduation

Copy/ad deadline: June 10  
Publication: June 23

#### August:

Copy/ad deadline: July 8  
Publication: July 21

#### September: Back to School

Copy/ad deadline: Aug. 12  
Publication: Aug. 25

# Seeking health care insurance

By Sha’Micah Hicks,  
Opinion commentary

Please help me—and many others like me. Help you and your loved ones, as you save money

This is a request from an 18-year-old who works 40 hours a week with senior citizens and is trying to finish high school.

I earn just over \$16 an hour before taxes are taken out. Although I work, fulltime, in a St Paul facility that helps senior citizens, my employer does not provide any medical care benefits for me. It’s impossible for me and thousands of other Minnesotans to afford health care.

A March 2026 report from the Minnesota Department of Health found a “sharp increase in uninsured Minnesotans.” They say that about 116,000 Minnesotans are without health insurance. [health.state.mn.us/news/pressrel/2026/uninsured031026.html](https://state.mn.us/news/pressrel/2026/uninsured031026.html).

I can understand this.

As a teenager, I experienced homelessness.

In 2017, my family’s house burned due to a gas leak in our duplex. My parents did not have renters’ insurance. They were both working two jobs already. It caused tremendous stress. I stopped going to school.

My mom was barely able to work. It was really bad. My mother began looking for help with state and community resources. She discovered that she could receive assistance if she was a single mother or fleeing a domestic relationship.

This limitation in available housing played a significant role in my parents’ separation. My family could not get services at first because our father was still with us. Something had to be a problem before my mom could get housing help—we couldn’t just need the help.

A lot of programs help kids and

young adults, but there are requirements. You need to be a single mom, or you need to actually be homeless.

When people think of homelessness, they think of people outside, sleeping at a park or in the car. But you also can be homeless going house to house. If you don’t have a stable home to go to every night, then you’re homeless.

My mother has now moved into senior citizen housing. I’m on my own. I’ve found an apartment and have a full-time job.

My research shows that in some countries—medical care is provided by the government. Getting good medical care does not depend on where you work.

The National Library of Medi-

cine ([pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC8572548](https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC8572548)) cites research showing health care spending in the U.S. is the highest per capita of any country in the world, but 37 million Americans have no health insurance, and 41 million have inadequate access to health care.

A single payer plan would result in a 13% saving in national health care, more than \$450 billion/year.

Currently, I can’t afford health care. A big medical bill could make me homeless again. I don’t want that. I want what each of us wants—decent medical care.

I’m working hard—hoping that people who read this will help me—and you—by working for better and more affordable health care via the single payer system.



The Minnesota Health Plan (SF932/HF1812) is a proposed bill in the 2025-2026 legislative session aiming to establish a single-payer, universal healthcare system for all state residents. It won’t be passed this year—but I hope people will join Sen. John Marty, DFL-Roseville, and Rep Liz Reyer, DFL-Eagan, to help it pass next year. ■

Sha’Micah Hicks lives in St. Paul.

Buy and Sell  
with confidence.  
Not concern.

OLD HOME  
CERTIFIED

Rethos’ Preservation Association

Offering knowledge of the unique  
characteristics of old homes that  
benefit client and community.

Lynden Realty LTD  
Barbara Swadburg / Agent

Mobile: 651-271-8919  
barb@lyndenarealty.com  
lyndenrealty.com/barb-swadburg

GREENHOUSE VILLAGE  
SENIOR CO-OP

- Unit for sale
- 55+ community
- Independent living
- Maintenance free living
- Tours on Wednesday at 11 AM
- Or call Jeff for a tour:  
651-488-9997

1021 W Larpenteur Ave. Roseville

www.greenhousevillage.com

LYNGBLOMSTEN

Healthcare,  
Housing, & Services  
for Older Adults  
since 1906

St. Paul

www.Lyngblomsten.org • (651) 646-2941

Independent Living • Assisted Living  
Rehab & Transitional Care • Alzheimer’s & Parkinson’s Care  
Long-Term Nursing Care • Caregiver Support  
The Gathering (memory loss respite program)

Clinical Excellence for over 40 years!

Dr. Nate Cogswell, DDS  
Dr. Allison Forbes, DDS  
Dr. Brad Nozzarella, DDS  
Dr. Nadine Yacoub, DDS

Phone/Text: 651-644-9216  
Email: [frontdesk@sapdentalcare.com](mailto:frontdesk@sapdentalcare.com)

We provide most dental treatments  
in office, including wisdom teeth,  
IV-sedation, implants, orthodontics &  
CPAP alternative oral appliances.

sapdentalcare.com

Your neighbors in St. Anthony Park

ST. ANTHONY PARK  
DENTAL CARE

2278 Como Avenue / St. Paul

SUNRISE BANKS

Help keep your monthly payments  
manageable during your renovation.

No closing costs on  
Home Equity Lines of Credit  
from now until June 30, 2026.

Apply online at  
[sunrisebanks.com/HELOC](https://sunrisebanks.com/HELOC)

\* Home Equity Line of Credit –The Annual Percentage Rate (APR) is variable and based on an index plus a margin. The APR will vary with the Prime Rate (the index) published in the Wall Street Journal. As of March 1, 2026, the variable rate for home equity lines of credit ranged from 6.75% APR to 7.75% APR. The rate will not vary above 21.75% APR, applicable state law, or below 5.25% APR. No closing cost special is for new money only. No closing cost promotion is valid from March 1 – June 30, 2026. Property insurance is required. Rates are subject to change. All loans are subject to credit approval and compliance with underwriting standards.

EQUAL HOUSING  
LENDER  
Member FDIC  
NMLS #640909

## SCHOOL NEWS

## School news around the town

Compiled by Janet Wight

### Avalon School

Submitted by Advisor/Program Coordinator Nora Whalen

In May, Avalon School celebrated its 25th anniversary. The charter school, founded as a project-based learning model centered on student voice, has remained true to that mission.

Avalon School has grown from 120 ninth- and 10th-graders in 2001 to more than 300 students in grades 6–12 today. Located in St. Anthony Park, it offers online and in-person learning and employs 40 faculty members.

Students learn through self-designed projects and discussion-based classes. Before graduation, each completes and presents a 300-hour project to the broader community. Students leave Avalon with a strong sense of identity and purpose.

### Great River School

Submitted by Aja Parham, Communications Coordinator

Great River School is still accepting applications for Fall 2026.

The school anticipates openings for 1st and 11th graders. However, interested families with children in any grade level are encouraged to contact the school to learn more about potential enrollment opportunities.

Visit [greatriverschool.org](http://greatriverschool.org) to learn more about the school's unique Montessori program for grades 1 to 12.

### Higher Ground Academy (HGA)

Submitted by Ahadu Tesfaye (LSW), school social worker

Members of the Youth Empowerment Club (YEC) at HGA work to make a positive impact in the community. More than 50 high school students regularly participate in service initiatives, including volunteering with organizations such as Feed My Starving Children.

Club members organized a May walkathon to raise funds for families in need, including newcomers to the United States. The student-planned event brought together high school and elementary families while promoting health and wellness.

The school is seeking additional volunteer opportunities for the YEC. Students are available Fridays from 12:30–5 p.m. Transportation is provided.

Forty-four HGA students recently participated in a Model United Nations (MUN) conference, a mock version of the United Nations where students represent different countries, debate global issues and have the opportunity to vote on resolutions and elections.



Higher Ground Academy students from Model United Nations. Submitted photo.

May 15 was Panther Day, which celebrated the student-athletes who won conference titles in both soccer and basketball this year. Activities included a parade and visits by high school athletes to elementary classrooms to read and connect with the younger students. Panther Day concluded with a school-wide rally in the gym.

### Metro Deaf School

Submitted by Susan Outlaw, executive director

Metro Deaf School's middle school robotics team, Ctrl+Zone, earned the Teamwork Champion Award by placing first at the seventh annual NRSC VEX IQ Robotics Tournament for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing in April. This national competition, which was held in Colorado Springs, Col., included 32 teams from across the country.



Ctrl+Zone earned the tournament's Teamwork Champion Award at the annual NRSC VEX IQ Robotics Tournament. Submitted photo.

Ctrl+Zone played 13 matches over two days, partnering with different alliances at each match while averaging an impressive 69.2 points. The students were successful due to consistent practice, strong collaboration, thoughtful strategy discussions and careful robot inspections at every match.

### Twin Cities German Immersion School (TCGIS)

Submitted by Paige Yurczyk, communications and community outreach Manager

TCGIS is celebrating its 20th year of tuition-free German immersion education and a vibrant school community. The milestone was marked last September with an anniversary celebration attended by more than 1,200 students, families, alumni and supporters.

Three longtime educators were recognized for helping shape the school community since its earliest days.



Scot Stephenson, Amy Lenburg and Heidi Scholtz. Submitted photo.

Heidi Scholtz, ELL teacher, was part of a parent group that helped turn the vision of a German immersion school into a reality.

First grade teacher Scot Stephenson joined TCGIS when it opened in 2005 with just 48 students and five staff. The building at its first location had barely been completed. "The cement was literally not yet dry," he recalled.

Amy Lenburg, art teacher, joined the school during its second year when enrollment had grown to 86 students. Both of her children attended the school.

### Chelsea Heights Elementary School

Submitted by Principal Guillermo Maldonado Pérez

Kindergarten teachers Janet Manor and Emily Kraus hosted an orientation for prospective families on May 13. Students toured the school, visited classrooms, asked questions and took a short bus ride.

Third and fifth graders at Chelsea Heights will participate in Feed My Starving Children on June 5, a service-learning experience connecting classroom learning with real-world compassion and action.

June 5 is also the annual Kindergarten Celebration, capping a year of growth, learning and creativity. Students will showcase butterfly puppets created during an arts residency with Julie Boada of ArtStart.

Fifth grade teachers Alyssa Flaten and Jay Matuzak will host a celebration on June 9, including a ceremony, certificates, a slideshow and refreshments. The event honors academic achievement, relationships, memories and perseverance at Chelsea Heights.

### Murray Middle School

Submitted by Principal Jamin McKenzie and Parent Involvement Coordinator Stefanie Folkema



Justine Revermann, Murray school counselor, was named St. Paul Public Schools Counselor of the Year.

"Justine does a dynamic job of advocating for Language Academy students and has taken a stance of leadership, especially during these current, challenging times," one of her colleagues said, noting that she is an advocate and an ally to all of her students.

In April, 34 Murray historians participated in State History Day at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Topical prizes were earned by Arnav Jagtap, Henry Leach, Adrian Johnson, Duncan Peterson and Seraphine Courtney, while 14 students received honorable mention.

Carter Matlock won third place for her performance titled "AAG-PBL (All-American Girls Professional Baseball League): The Shoulders We Stand On."

Lucia Barnes won third place with her documentary "AMBER: The Girl Before the Warning."

First place honors went to the team of Emmett Loth, Robin Courtney and Peter Laska for their documentary "Reforming Occupational Lead Safety: Dr. Alice Hamilton's Revolutionary Research."

Barnes, Loth, Courtney and Laska all advanced to the National History Day National Contest, which is scheduled to be held June 14 to 18 at the University of Maryland. ■

Janet Wight lives in the Como neighborhood and is a regular freelance writer for the Bugle.

**REFRESH YOUR HOME FOR THE SEASON**  
**\$20 OFF HOUSE CLEANING**  
 CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION  
 651.503.3244  
[Steinercleaning@gmail.com](mailto:Steinercleaning@gmail.com)  
[Steinercleaning.com](http://Steinercleaning.com)  
 (First time Customers Only)  
 BASIC CLEANINGS  
 DEEP CLEANINGS  
 MOVE IN/OUT CLEANINGS

**Garden fresh flavors**  
**LANNA THAI**  
**AUTHENTIC THAI FOOD**  
 Our Patio is Open for Summer Blooms  
 Dine-In / Outside Seating / Take-Out / Delivery  
 Now Serving Beer and Wine  
 Open Monday–Sunday / Lunch Specials 11am–2pm  
**LannaThaiMN.com**  
**2295 Como Ave | 612-470-7172**

**MADE FROM SCRATCH**  
**COLOSSAL CAFE**  
 Dine In or Take Out | Open Every Day 7am–2pm  
 2315 Como Ave. St. Paul 651-797-4027  
[www.colossalcafe.com](http://www.colossalcafe.com)

**DAN BANE CPA, LLC**  
**Certified Public Accountant**  
 Providing Individual & Business Tax Service.  
 Conveniently located in the Baker Ct Bldg  
 (1 Blk East of 280 at corner of Territorial & Raymond)  
 at 821 Raymond Ave – Ste 310, St Paul 55114.  
 Call for an appointment **651-999-0123**  
 or visit my website at: [www.danbanecpa.com](http://www.danbanecpa.com)

## ST. ANTHONY PARK ARTS FESTIVAL

## Meet the 2026 SAP Arts Festival featured artists

By Janet Wight

The 57th annual St. Anthony Park Arts Festival will fill the neighborhood with arts galore on Saturday, June 6.

This year's one-day celebration will feature more than 50 juried artists on and near the grounds of the neighborhood St. Anthony Park Branch Library along with musicians and a community plant sale. There will be also numerous food vendors.

The featured artists for 2026 are Clarissa Dahl, Mary Ila Duntemann and Jana Hedlund.

### Clarissa Dahl



Gouache artist Clarissa Dahl has been a lifelong student of the arts, learning throughout her childhood from her artist parents.

As she grew up in Richfield, art lessons and creating art together were part of her family's culture, she said.

Dahl has been drawn to plants and animals since she was a young girl. As she learned about climate change and environmental concerns in high school, she became passionate about science and decided that she wanted to make a difference.

Dahl divides her time between creating art and pursuing a master's degree in conservation science at the University of Minnesota, where she also was recently accepted into the PhD program. Ecological restoration of wetland plant communities is her thesis topic.

"I love native plants more than anything," she said.

Dahl lives with her partner Dominic, their cat Milo and their wheelchair-reliant dog Kaylee in student housing on campus.

Recently, she realized that making and sharing her art could be a viable part of her livelihood. Her motivation increased once she discovered gouache, a type of paint similar to watercolor.



Display at art fair. (Clarissa Dahl)

Dahl was introduced to this medium by a co-worker. "It combines everything that I love about watercolor with the ability to use thick, intense paint strokes," she explained.

Focusing on lighting and shadows, along with her ecological knowledge, makes her art style unique. Clarissa gives extra detail to underappreciated organisms such as mosses and grasses, she said.

Clarissa said she tries to stay true to her heart and what she finds beautiful and evocative.

"I would say I do paintings that are inspired by my love for nature and the experience of being in nature. I focus on people and wildlife interacting with the natural environment. My education allows me to appreciate natural systems," she said.

"I paint what I want to, not what I think people want me to paint," Clarissa added.



Clarissa painting (Clarissa Dahl)

Dahl's greatest fulfillment as an artist is derived from the creative process itself.

"I am most satisfied when I can enter a complete flow state and feel completely immersed in what I'm doing," she said. "It's satisfying to share my art with the world, and seeing people relate to the feelings I am trying to evoke with my paintings is special."

"After spending lots of time in nature and having artists as parents, it's not an exaggeration to say that I have been an artist my whole life," Clarissa added. "This is just the time that I am starting to share it with the world."

To view Dahl's art, visit @clarissadahlart on Instagram.

### Mary Ila Duntemann



For Mary Ila Duntemann, hand-crafting unique beads has been an important part of life for the past two decades.

Duntemann, a resident of Minneapolis' Powderhorn neighborhood, has been interested in beads since she was a young girl.

"Beads in general are found in every culture around the world. I just think that the meditative aspect of making the bead connects me with the wider world," Duntemann said. She added that different cultures use beads in various ways such as for prayer, meditation or adornment.

Working in her backyard studio, Duntemann creates glass beads from thin rods of colorful Italian glass. She uses the lamp-working process, which uses the flame from a torch to melt the tips of the rods.

The beads are hollow, which makes them light. Since they are bigger than most beads, she has a larger canvas to decorate, she said.

Afterwards they are placed in a rock tumbler with a fine grit for 10 to 12 hours in order to achieve the desired matte finish.

"Most people are thrown off by my beads because they say they can't be glass since I prefer a matte finish," she explained. "People



Black and white necklace. (Mary Ila Duntemann)

mistake them for being wood or stone or ceramic. I don't like shiny. My color palette is earthy and organic."

Although Duntemann's beads are often used for adornment, some people use them as focal meditative pieces. "They are large, they're hollow, they're good-sized to hold in your hands. A lot of people buy my beads just for the simple act of being able to hold them," she said.

Besides making beads, Duntemann has been teaching at the Chicago Avenue Fire Arts Center for over 14 years. This organization supports heat, spark or flame mediums such as welding, blacksmithing, and jewelry and stained glass making.

Duntemann offers a variety of price points for her beads and jewelry. Prices range from \$4 to \$15 for spacer and disc beads. Her signature decorated beads range from \$32 to \$55. Simple chain necklaces are available for \$90 while chunky necklaces with multiple beads sell for \$495.



Sunset bead (Mary Ila Duntemann)

Duntemann participates in several art fairs including the Grand Marais Arts Festival in July, the Powderhorn Art Fair in August and the LoLa Art Crawl in September.

In addition to creating beads, Duntemann likes dabbling with fiber. She loves color so she enjoys dying fabric. She sews some of her own clothes and she also does a lot of mending.

"I like playing with stitches for adornment," she said.

For additional information, visit Duntemann's website at [maryiladuntemann.com](http://maryiladuntemann.com).

### Jana Hedlund



Handbuilt. Functional. Durable.

These are words used by Jana Hedlund to describe the type of pottery that she creates.

Hedlund has enjoyed art since she was a child growing up in Crookston. She took elective ceramics classes in high school and during her college years at Concordia College in Moorhead.

"There is peace and calming in the routine of making pottery," Hedlund explained.

All of her bowls, plates and mugs are food grade and may be used in a microwave. These items are also dishwasher safe that makes them suitable for everyday use.

Hedlund embraces the natural imperfections that occur when using the hand-building process to make pottery. These unique qualities of the clay, along with the simple use of color highlights, set her work apart, she explained.

Making hand-built functional stoneware is a part-time pursuit for Hedlund. She is also busy in her role as a special education

coordinator in an east metro school district. Although she has been creating ceramics on and off for 20 years, she has been more focused on developing her craft in the past year, she said.



Various pottery (Jana Hedlund)

Hedlund eventually aspires to have a home studio. But, for now, all of her work is currently done at Midway Clay, a membership-based community clay studio at 1708 University Ave.

Having a creative outlet outside of her day job, along with a way to connect with other artists, brings Hedlund a great deal of satisfaction. She is exploring whether this is something that she would want to do at a higher level.

"I would love to get to the point where I can sustain it financially," she said.

Since the St. Anthony Park Arts Festival is her first art show, her primary challenge is to prepare for the event and ensure that she has the right number of items for her booth, she said. Prices range from \$15 to \$50 apiece.



Green bowls (Jana Hedlund)

Hedlund has lived in the Midway neighborhood with her husband for 15 years. They have two cats, Fern and Rue, plus four chickens named Meg, Road Rash, Snowball and Muffin.

Hedlund believe that anyone who creates art is an artist. "Whether it's for your own enjoyment or to share with others is equally valid," she said.

Visit [sapfest.org](http://sapfest.org) for more information, a detailed schedule, a festival map or to make a donation. ■

Janet Wight is a regular freelance writer for the Bugle.

**Snapped a great  
pic at SAP Art Fest?**  
— Tag us!  
f @parkbugle  
@park\_bugle

## ST. ANTHONY PARK 57TH ARTS FESTIVAL

ST. ANTHONY PARK  
ARTS  
FESTIVAL

Presented by



St. Anthony Park Branch Library Association

## Artists, music and activities on June 6

## Glass &amp; Enamel

- 10 Mary Ila Duntemann\*  
54 Warren Slocum  
66 Rachel Burlet  
74 Sarah Horning

## Jewelry

- 6 Edvin Niz  
9 Alison Reitsma  
14 Ashley Ligon  
18 Kristin Hall  
25 Alicia Randazzo  
29 Ann Aas  
37 Emma Baker  
40 Jenny Levernier  
45 Judy Christensen  
48 Samy Slinger  
51 Cheri Meyer  
56 Lisa Hanson  
58 Anne Wayman  
64 John Bartunek  
68 Maggie Villaume  
72 Mercy Olson Ward  
78 Susan Roskens

## Ceramics

- 1 Erin Wilaby  
5 Heidi Van Schooten  
15 Wendy Eggerman  
21 Sarah Lenz  
28 Jana Hedlund\*  
33 Jacklyn Even  
41 Susan Koehler  
57 Luke Krisak  
59 Karis Montanez  
70 John Steger  
76 Colleen Riley

## Fiber &amp; Wearable

- 2 Barbara Geurink  
4 Barbara Schendel-Kent  
27 Carmen Elate and Jacques Elate Joss  
32 Stephanie Friant  
53 Kelly Radotich  
67 Rosmery Victoria Jara Sandberg

## Mixed Media

- 3 Aaron Noble  
8 Annette Stephens  
11 Jean Haeefe  
26 Anniken Fuller  
36 Farrah Nguyen  
60 Josie Wilkening  
61 Josie Wilkening  
79 Youa Yang

## Painting &amp; Drawing

- 13 Allie Rykken  
17 Amber McDowell  
20 Clarissa Dahl\*  
31 Cassandra Grandahl  
39 Heather Humbert  
44 Mark Cosimini  
47 Kelli Ramey  
49 Mandie Goneau  
55 Madeline Flesvig  
63 Marshall Baltzell  
65 Laura DeVore  
73 Orapin Muench  
77 Regan Golden

## Paper &amp; Printmaking

- 7 Coralette Damme  
46 Christine Hansen  
69 Betsy Hsiao / Monica Helland  
80 Sophie Wang

## Photography

- 12 Elizabeth Baur  
34 Rachel Cain  
71 Tomas Alvarez

## Sculpture

- 62 Thomas Sack

## Wood

- 16 Daniel Wenkel  
19 Aryn Kern  
30 Paul Georgieff  
35 Peter Dirks  
38 Jordan Anderson  
52 Jose Boatman

\* 2026 Featured artist

## Community Booths

- 22 & 23 Water Wagons  
24 Up North Coffee Company  
42 SAPBLA Book Sale  
43 Saint Anthony Park Community Foundation  
75 Community Homestead  
81 Natural Ways Chiropractic  
82 BrightSide Produce & MidCity Farmers Market  
83 SAP Area Seniors  
84 Goldstein Museum of Design  
85 SAP Co-op Preschool  
86 Hopebird Artisan Pumpkin Seeds  
87 Saint Paul Parks and Rec Langford Park  
88 Renewal by Anderson  
89 Park Bugle  
90 SAP Community Council  
91 All Energy Solar  
92 School of Rock  
93 MetroNOME  
94 Transition Town  
95 Venture Academy  
— League of Women Voters

## Vendors

- Mehndi Made Memories  
Mabel's Kettle Corn  
Eggroll Queen  
Best Way  
Abogados Café  
Lemon Heaven  
HomeTown Creamery  
Tibet Momo  
Carnaval Mexican Grill  
Smash N Dash  
Maggie's Food for the Soul  
Minnesnowii Shave Ice  
Up North Coffee Company

## Music Lineup

## Library Stage

- 11 AM The Will Quie Jazz Ensemble  
Noon Ina-Yukka  
1 PM Jonathan Rundman  
2 PM Sweet Rhubarb  
3 PM Barrel Flash  
4 PM Singing Resistance with Pig's Eye Jass

## Luther Stage

- Noon Ian Duerrer  
1 PM The May North  
2 PM Second Hand Dan  
3 PM Mary Cutrufello  
4 PM Madameblu  
5 PM MetroNOME Jazz Band

## Scheduled Activities

Alisa Mee Storytelling  
10 am–11:00 am  
Library Stage

Beer & Mead Tent  
12:00pm–6:00 pm  
Luther Lawn

Featuring: Dual Citizen, Bumbling Fools, MetroNOME Brewing, N/A Hobby Farmer

## All Day Activities

St. Anthony Park Foundation Craft Tent  
Library Lawn

Terra Firma Lawn Games  
Luther Lawn

School of Rock Instrument Petting Zoo  
Luther Lawn

SAPBLA Book Sale  
Library Basement

Thank you  
St. Anthony Park  
57th Arts Festival  
sponsors

## Premier sponsors

All Energy Solar,  
Dual Citizen,  
Renewal by Anderson

## Supporting sponsors

Carter Ave Frame Shop,  
Luther Seminary,  
metroNome Brewery,  
The Little Wine Shop, Zvago

## Community sponsors

boréal, Nicos Tacos, ReMax Results, Speedy Market, State Farm, Studio360, Sunrise Banks

## General sponsors

Goldenberg Law, Terra Firma

## Artist Award sponsor

Lanna Thai

## Coffee sponsor

Up North Coffee Company



## Free Wine Tastings are Back!

Join us every 3rd Thursday of the month, 4:30-7 p.m.  
With a special tasting during the Arts Festival, June 6th, 1-4 p.m.

2305 Como Ave., St. Paul  
651.645.5178

M-Th 10 a.m.-8 p.m.,  
F-Sat. 10 a.m.-9 p.m., Sun. 12-5 p.m.

www.thelittlewineshoppe.com

PLANT  
SALE

ST. ANTHONY PARK  
GARDEN CLUB

Como & Luther Place  
(across from Speedy Mkt.)

- Good Variety of Annuals, Veggies, & Houseplants
- Hostas grown at SAP Library Garden

StAnthonyParkGardenClub.com for details  
Cash and checks preferred



Saturday June 6 • 9 am - 1 pm

## TERRA FIRMA

BUILDING AND REMODELING

Employee Owned

Committed to making our neighborhood and city a better place to live and work.

651-207-5575

terrafirmamn.com

Lic:BC673777

Family Owned Since 1995

Tim & Tom's  
Fresh Meat  
**Speedy**  
& Groceries  
Market

**ARTS FESTIVAL  
GRILL OUT!**

BURGERS, BRATWURST, AND HOT DOGS!

**SATURDAY, JUNE 6TH  
10AM-1PM**

2310 Como Avenue  
St Paul, MN 55108  
651-645-7360  
Open Daily 8am-7pm  
timandtomsspeedy  
Tim & Tom's Speedy Market

Meet the Park Bugle team at booth #89

# ST. ANTHONY PARK 57TH ARTS FESTIVAL



## Support SAP Arts Festival

By Rita LaDoux

“Neighbor Is a Verb” is a new artwork by St. Anthony Park artist and neighbor Libby Baur that captures the spirit of the community. Baur combines local businesses and landmarks into a colorful collage inspired by neighborhood life. “This collection was shaped by my neighbors and their care for the place they’ve created,” Baur said. “Their volunteerism, generosity, and joy, especially in difficult seasons, are what community looks like in practice.”

The original collage will be auctioned to benefit the St. Anthony Park Arts Festival. It is currently on display at boreál Gifts & Goods on Como Avenue.

Look for Baur at the Arts Festival, where she will sell miniature prints and tote bags featuring the illustrations from her collage. “I encourage you to support our vibrant small business community,” Baur said, “and to learn more about the many wonderful St. Anthony Park organizations, including the St. Anthony Park Community Foundation, Creative Enterprise Zone, St. Anthony Park Branch Library Association, Langford Park Recreation Association, SAPSA, Fourth in the Park, Taproot and more. Together, their shared generosity is what helps this community thrive.” Bidding for the artwork is open now through 5 p.m. Saturday, June 6, at [sapfest.org/raffle](http://sapfest.org/raffle). ■



Rita LaDoux chairs the St. Anthony Park Branch Library Association.

“Neighbor is a Verb” is a collage of original illustrations by SAP artist Libby Baur. Libby’s website: [libbybaur.com/portfolio/tosapwithlove](http://libbybaur.com/portfolio/tosapwithlove).

So your chosen family  
can be there when you  
need them most.

Complete Your Estate Plan This Pride Month



Christine B. Courtney, Attorney at Law

[chris@courtneylawoffice.com](mailto:chris@courtneylawoffice.com)

(612) 356-2635

[www.courtneylawoffice.com](http://www.courtneylawoffice.com)

CARTER AVE  
FRAME SHOP

Twin Cities’  
Trusted Picture Framing  
Since 1975

(651) 645 7862

[www.carteravenueframeshop.com](http://www.carteravenueframeshop.com)

HOURS

Weekdays 10:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



## TRANSITION TOWN

This is a monthly column from Transition Town—All St. Anthony Park, the neighborhood-based group working for a local response to climate change: a smaller carbon footprint and a stronger community. Learn more about Transition Town at [TransitionASAP.org](http://TransitionASAP.org).

# The lost neighbors of south St. Anthony Park: Displaced by Highway 280

By Pat Thompson

Decades ago, the strip of land under Highway 280—the road that's being rebuilt this summer—was part of south St. Anthony Park's street grid. It was home to many working families and their livelihoods.

In the 1950s within that land, you would have seen the Red Star Yeast factory and many commercial buildings similar to the Mack and Midway Triangle buildings, which still stand on University Avenue.

Close by was the Immanuel UCC church, known for its stained-glass windows. Print shops, a labor local, Dial N' Dine restaurant, and many other food- and equipment-related businesses were staffed by the men and women of the neighborhood, who lived in a variety of houses and apartment buildings.

The neighborhood people worked at the nearby factories whose buildings still exist today, too: International Harvester (now Court International) and Waldorf Paper (now the Dow Building).

Census records for 1950 show a number of retired people and women who didn't list an occupation (many were housewives or kept boarders).

But women also worked in department store sales, machine operating, bookkeeping, stenography, credit-investigating, stock-checking, weaving, assembling and as mechanics, telegraph operators, clerks, waitresses, nurses, teachers, long distance operators and newspaper reporter.

Men were most often machine operators, mechanics, printers, rail road workers, laborers or drivers (often of trucks). But other occupations included welder, St. Paul police detective, foremen at various plants, draftsman, painters, candymakers, grain shoveler, actuary, lab tech, civil engineer, carpenters, table pad cutters, lineman, shipping manager, office manager, accountant, dental tech, sales clerk, conductor, bricklayer, and union vice president.

Some 535 people lived in homes just north and south of University

Avenue.

By the next census, they were being told to vacate to make room for the highway, which began construction in the 1960s.

The post-World War II era was the time of cars, suburbanization, and the beginning of freeway-building. Highway 280 was planned to "enable truck drivers to move into truck terminals in the Midway area without traveling through present traffic-congested streets" (Minneapolis Star, June 1954).

Instead, motorists have used it routinely because of St. Paul's lack of north/south streets across the railroad tracks. With other freeways that were built, Highway 280 created a frictionless connection, helping induce demand for more vehicle trips, and leading to bad land use decisions that caused even more vehicle trips. Here as elsewhere, increasingly, cities have been designed for cars, at the expense of communities.

### Lessons from the past

As we work for a livable future, what can we learn from the past?

The planners of the past could have built a regular street that connected the city—or ideally multiple streets for redundancy—instead of a freeway. Then, if one route had to be closed for repairs, traffic wouldn't be funneled onto a single remaining street, as we see today.

If they had built streets instead of a higher-speed freeway, they wouldn't have created the expectation of fast travel everywhere all the time within the city. That expectation has led to sprawl, loss of businesses in neighborhoods and



The 1916 Sanborn fire map of south St. Anthony Park shows how many structures had already been built in the area, later selected for Highway 280 (the lighter vertical strip). More buildings—pink for brick, yellow for wood—were built in the years before 1950. *Sanborn Fire Insurance map.*

downtowns, and overflow effects like speeding on side streets near the freeway.

In recent years, we have learned that hidden under urban freeways are places that used to be neighborhoods, part of the fabric of our communities. In St. Paul, there was Rondo, Merriam Park and south St. Anthony Park. We can't bring them back as they were, but we can value them.

Freeways are an unquestioned aspect of 20th and 21st century American life, and key to what

makes transportation the largest single contributor to climate change. Questioning their existence is part of facing the extent of the climate challenge we face in this country. ■

*Pat Thompson is a member of Transition Town—All St. Anthony Park and co-chair of the St. Anthony Park Community Council's Transportation Committee. If you know the story of any of these lost neighbors, email [transportation@transitionasap.org](mailto:transportation@transitionasap.org).*

### FREE FARMERS MARKET

#### Drive-Through Events

Receive FREE fresh fruits and vegetables June through October!

For more information and dates visit: [keystoneservices.org/ffmevents](http://keystoneservices.org/ffmevents)



Keystone  
COMMUNITY SERVICES



## RE/MAX RESULTS

Thinking of a move, but not sure where to start?

Do you sell before you buy?

What is the market like?

My years of experience will help you through complicated situations.

Let's talk!

**Chris Deming**  
612.414.2785

DemingRealEstate@gmail.com  
**CHRISTOPHERDEMING.COM**  
2190 Como Ave., St. Paul, MN 55108



Looking west down University Avenue in the late 1940s (note the KSTP tower in the background): These commercial buildings stood on the north side of the Cromwell intersection. The "woody" station wagon is going north onto Cromwell. The white cab beyond it is turning north onto Eustis. The buildings in between were destroyed to build Hwy. 280. By 1950, the Peter Schwartz restaurant was on the north side of University between Eustis and Cromwell, possibly in the light-colored building with the DI-METTE sign. *Photo courtesy Minnesota Street Car Museum.*



Commercial Real Estate

Family-owned, locally focused  
business partner and neighbor  
since 1984

wellingtonmgt.com | 651-292-9844

## EVENTS AND MORE

Compiled by Kathy Henderson

### St. Anthony Procession

The St. Anthony Park Faith Communities Moveable Feast Procession takes place Sunday, May 31, bringing together five neighborhood churches. The procession begins at 11:45 a.m. at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, 2323 Como Ave., and proceeds to Centennial United Methodist Church, St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, and St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ, ending at St. Cecilia's Catholic Church, 2357 Bayless Place.

At each stop, participants will take part in brief liturgies and music. In case of rain, a car caravan will replace the walking procession.

### Como Lakeside Pavilion

The Dock and Paddle's summer music and events at 1360 Lexington Parkway N. Full schedule at dockandpaddle.com.

- **Roseville Community Band**, Monday, June 1, 7 to 9 p.m.
- **Como Pops Ensemble**, Sunday, June 21, 3 to 5 p.m.
- **Shakespeare in the Park's "The Tempest"**, Friday, June 26 at 7:30 p.m. Register in advance. classicalactorsensemble.org/productions.

### Groovin' in the Garden

Annual free summer concert series takes place in front of the Marjorie McNeely Conservatory, 1225 Estabrook Drive. Concerts 6 to 8 p.m. on Wednesdays. Rain location: Visitor Center Porch.

- June 10, Innocent Reggae Band, POLJAM food truck
- June 14, Miss Georgia Peach, Brick Oven Bus
- June 24, Jellyjacket, Heavy Metal Grill
- July 1, Betty Won't, KMC Eggrolls

### Music on the Cortile

Obi Original & The Black Atlantics, Afrocentric sound and storytelling, from noon to 1 p.m. on Thursday, June 25, at the Landmark Center, 75 Fifth St. W. Free.

### Community sing

Join Dan Chouinard and Ann Reed for a free sing-along at 7 p.m. Monday, June 15, at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 2136 Carter Ave.

### St. Anthony Park Garden Club

Plant sale from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, June 6, at the corner of Como Avenue and Luther Place.

### Como Park Zoo & Conservatory

Open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily at Marjorie McNeely Conservatory, 1225 Estabrook Drive. Free. comozooconservatory.org.

- **Spring Flower Show** closes Sunday, June 7.
- **Summer Flower Show** runs June 12-Sept. 13, featuring floral display inspired by Alice in Wonderland. Note: The Sunk-en Garden closes for maintenance June 21-July 8.
- **Japanese Garden Tea Ceremonies** begin June 5 on various days and times. \$60; registration required: comozooconservatory.org/como/japanese-garden.

### Community sing

Join Dan Chouinard and Ann Reed for a free sing-along at 7 p.m. Monday, June 15, at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 2136 Carter Ave.

### Women's Drum Center

A four-part hand drum camp runs 7 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesdays, June 17 and 24 and July 1 and 8, at 2242 University Ave. W. \$80. Register at womensdrumcenter.org.

### Goldstein Museum of Design

"Illusive Objects" continues through July 2 at McNeal Hall, 1985 Buford Ave., on the University of Minnesota St. Paul campus. Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday and 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, with extended hours to 7 p.m. during the SAP Art Festival on Saturday, June 6. View rarely exhibited apparel. Free. design.umn.edu/goldstein.

### boréal Art Loft

"Echoes of Nature Painted and Carved," works by painter Don Biehne and ceramicist Cindy Syme, runs from June 1 to 28 at boréal Gifts and Goods, 2276 Como Ave, during regular business hours. Opening reception from 5 to 7 p.m. on Thursday, June 4.

### Campus Walking Tour

St. Anthony Park resident Betty Lotterman leads a walking tour of the University of Minnesota St. Paul campus from 10 a.m. to noon, on Saturday, June 20. \$23. Register required, St. Paul Community Education, tours, commed.spps.org/adult-programs/adult-enrichment.

### Next Chapter Bookseller

Book Launch: "What I Made For Dinner." Author Kryz Malcolm Belle in conversation with by Aamina Ahmad from 6 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, June 9, at 38 Snelling Ave. S.

### German Days

11 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Saturday, June 13, and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday, June 14, at the Germanic-American Institute, 301 Summit Ave. Deutsche Tage celebration with music, traditional dance and interactive activities for all ages. Free admission. gaimn.org/deutsche-tage.

### Como Park Farmers Market

2 to 6 p.m. on Thursdays continues through Oct. 29 at Como Park Lutheran Church, 1545 Hamline Ave.

### Juneteenth

**The Reckoning:** The fifth annual Juneteenth celebration from noon to 5 p.m. on Friday June 19, at the state Capitol grounds, 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Entertainment, food, vendors, resources.

**For the Culture:** 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday, June 20, at the MGM lot, 1690 Robert St. S., West St. Paul. Food trucks, music, vendors, Kids Zone, DJ from Twin Circle Radio Network, Double Dutch, Step Team and Sip & Paint section.

### Feeding Our Souls: The Essence of Juneteenth Joy

5:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 23, at St. Paul College, 235 Marshall Ave. Local chefs join Minnesota Humanities Center CEO Kevin Lindsey to talk about the events that shaped their culinary journeys. Other topics include importance of music in history and community. \$25. Register: Minnesota Humanities Center, mnhum.org/events.

### Kumbayah: The Juneteenth Story

2 to 4:30 p.m. on Friday, June 26, at The O'Shaughnessy, St. Catherine University, 2004 Randolph Ave. Theatrical experience incorporates spoken word, art, music and dance on Juneteenth's origins. Presented by the Minnesota Humanities Center and Sweet Potato Comfort Pie. Free. Registration required: oshag.stkate.edu.

### Senior activities

Due to space limitations, this month's St. Anthony Park Area Seniors activities can be found at sapeseniors.org. ■

## St. Anthony Park Area Seniors

### A Neighborhood Program Providing Services for Seniors Living Independently

We Offer Free of Charge:

- Rides to medical appointments
- Exercise Classes
- Tech Support
- Foot Care, Handman, Luncheons (for a fee)
- Art Classes
- Chore Help
- Respite... and more!

Always Welcoming  
Volunteers!



www.sapeseniors.org 651.642.9052

## Mulch Garden Soil Rock & Gravel Compost

**WE DELIVER ALL PRODUCTS!**

915 Albert St. N, St. Paul  
KernLandscaping.com - (651) 646-1553

# Home for sale

in beautiful Saint Anthony Park!

*Fantastic*  
**DUPLEX FOR SALE**

**\$600,000**  
3 bd / 2ba each unit

Fully leased until  
8/31/26  
Great investment  
or owner occupy

Contact Cris Young  
at  
**612-558-7887**  
or  
crisyoung@edinarealty.com

**2289-2291 Hillside Ave.**

## Deeply Rooted Real Estate

We are a Twin Cities-based real estate company that's in it for the long run.

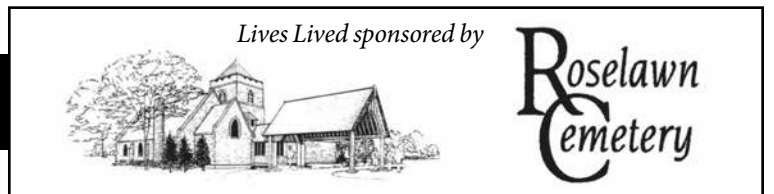
Office & Medical | Retail | Non-Profit | Industrial

wellingtonmgt.com  
651-292-9844

Industrial space available adjacent to Fairgrounds!

## LIVES LIVED

The Park Bugle prints obituaries free of charge, on a space available basis, as a service to our communities. Send information about area deaths to Mary Mergenthal at [mary.mergenthal@gmail.com](mailto:mary.mergenthal@gmail.com) or call 612-670-8510.



## Frederick Gaiser, noted Lutheran theologian, dies

By Mary Mergenthal

Frederick Gaiser, 88, professor emeritus of Old Testament at Luther Seminary, died May 12, 2026.

Fred was born Oct. 5, 1937, in West Alexandria, Ohio, to George and Susan Gaiser.

Fred earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Kalamazoo College (Michigan), where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa.

While in high school, Fred won Virginia's Westinghouse Science Talent Search, leading to summer jobs at the National Bureau of Standards in Washington. He later worked briefly as a research chemist at Upjohn Pharmaceutical Company, which eventually became Pfizer—a connection he enjoyed noting after receiving his COVID vaccine.

Then, in an unexpected career shift, Fred enrolled at Trinity Lutheran Seminary master of divinity degree in 1963. He then studied at Heidelberg University in Germany, where he received his doctorate in theology in 1985.

Fred was ordained in what is now the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in 1969, and served as pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Humboldt, S.D., from 1969 to 1974. He was then called to teach at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, where he served as professor of Old Testament until his retirement in 2014.

During his teaching years, he served as registrar, dean of students, director of graduate studies, and director of the Luther Seminary in Zimbabwe program. From 1999 to 2003, he was a member of the ELCA Task Force on Health and Ethical Challenges in Health Care. His seminary-related work included serving as editor of "Word &

World: Theology for Christian Ministry" for 25 years.

Fred is the author of countless articles, including his broadly acclaimed Word & World editorials. He translated and edited several books and articles, including several sermons by Martin Luther.

Due, in part, to his earlier work as a pharmaceutical chemist, Fred began teaching a course on healing in the Bible, which led to publication of his major work, "Healing in the Bible: Theological Insight for Christian Ministry" (Baker Academic, 2010).

Fred was frequently invited to teach and preach at congregations and conferences near and far, including in German in the United States and Germany and—with a translator—in English in Shona-speaking Zimbabwe congregations. In later years, he regularly led worship and preached at St. Anthony Park Home, which he found especially meaningful.

Fred also taught at Augsburg University in Minneapolis and St. Paul School of Theology in Kansas City. In Africa, he taught at the University of Zimbabwe, United Theological College and Africa University in Zimbabwe, and lectured at Tumaini University Makumira in Tanzania.

The years in Africa were a life-changing experience because, among other things, it brought him into contact with the woman who would become his wife, Barbara. They were married on June 26, 1999.

Fred was preceded in death by his parents and is survived by Barbara and his children, Jonathan (Stephanie) of Omaha; Rebekah Todd of Eden Prairie; and Katharine Zink (Jeffrey), of Colorado

Springs, Colo. Other survivors include stepson Tom Jorgenson (Bridget Griffith) and by seven grandchildren, plus one due in this fall; four great-grandchildren; and by his brother George (Judy).

Fred's funeral service will be held at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church on Friday, June 5, with visitation at 10 a.m., and funeral at 11 a.m.

Memorials preferred to St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church or Global Health Ministries, 7900 West 78th Street, Suite 100, Minneapolis, MN 55439. ■

Mary Mergenthal is the Park Bugle obits editor.

### Marla Bollig

Marla Bollig, 76, St. Anthony Park, died April 16.

Born and raised in Brainerd, she won the Miss Brainerd competition in 1968 and also worked at the Brainerd Dispatch.

She moved to Minneapolis with her husband, Steven Pelletier. She worked at the University of Minnesota in personnel/human resources for 25 years. Later she ran her own cleaning business. She moved to St. Anthony Park in 1986.

Marla is survived by her two children, Juli and Damian Pelletier, and by her partner, Ed Elliott.

A celebration of Marla's life is planned for July 23 at Silverwood Park in St. Anthony Village.

### Paul Christenson

Paul Henry Christenson, 92, died April 29 in Red Wing. He was born Sept. 9, 1933, in Wabasha, the son of Elmer and Ruth (Henryson) Christenson.

Paul grew up in Como Park. At an early age he started playing piano and at age 16 he was the organist for Como Park Lutheran Church. When he wasn't playing music, he was swimming, diving, ice skating and cheerleading at Murray High School.

He attended St. Olaf College, then earned a degree from Luther Seminary and served three parishes in Wisconsin, plus churches in Decorah, Iowa, and Evanston, Ill.

As the Christenson Family Singers, he, his wife, Lois (Loey), and their children sang their way through Europe in 1974, 1977 and 1981. They performed at the Nordic Fest in Decorah for 15 years.

With each parish call, Paul worked on behalf of social justice and the social gospel, always including the local priest or rabbi in this pursuit. Paul and his wife finished their ministry in Sandnessjøen, Norway. That year, Paul preached in Norwegian to seven small congregations throughout the area near the Arctic Circle.

In 1996, Paul and Loey retired to Red Wing, where they opened the Red Wing Blackbird B&B and hosted guests for seven years.

During this time, he served as a church choir director and handbell player, launched the TAG (The Aged Gifted) Speaker Series, led local Building Bridges conflict resolution tours to Norway and Bosnia & Herzegovina, belonged to Rotary and Sons of Norway, and rarely missed a senior church choir rehearsal or performance.

He was preceded in death by his parents, brothers, wife and son-in-law.

Paul is survived by six children, nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

### Anne Green

Anne Rose Green, formerly of St. Anthony Park, died April 26. She leaves a legacy of devotion, warmth and quiet strength.

She is survived by her husband, George; children, Katherine Schultz (TJ), Thomas Green (Megan) and Carol Bryant (Charles); five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by David.

### Marie Hard

Marie Hard, 99, Falcon Heights, died Jan. 8, 2026. She was preceded in death by her husband, Dr. C. Gustav Hard; parents, Walter Stanger and Gertrude Stanger Merritt; brothers, Walter Stanger, Richard Stanger; and sister, Marlen Stocke. She is survived by her children, Stephen Hard (Lisa), Bill Hard (Dede), Kathryn Johnson (David); seven grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; sister, Barbara Penrod and sister-in-law, Barbara Ziemer.

Memorials to the steeple repair project at Hennepin Avenue United Methodist Church.

### Pastor Judith Hazen

Pastor Judith Ann (Kurth) Hazen, 84, died May 6.

She was born in 1942 to Raymond and Lillian (née Heidelberg) Kurth in Dumont, Minn. She grew up in Minneapolis with four younger brothers. In 1963 she married Jeff Hazen; they divorced in 1984.

Judith earned degrees from Macalester College; Minnesota State University, Mankato; University of St. Thomas; and Luther Seminary. She also attended Emmanuel School of Religion in Johnson City, Tennessee earning ABT status.

Lives Lived to p. 13

## ROSELAWN CEMETERY

a peaceful resting place for all

### JOIN US FOR AN OPEN HOUSE

as we celebrate restoration, renewal, and community.

Wednesday, June 17th, 2026

Historic Roselawn Chapel & Administrative Building

3:00 P.M. — Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Help us mark this exciting new chapter.

3:00 to 7:00 P.M. — Open House Celebration

Refreshments and live musicians in the Historic Roselawn Chapel. Guided tours of our newly restored and rehabilitated buildings.

Come and experience the beauty of Roselawn Cemetery, learn about our recent improvements, and connect with the people who care for this historic place.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU.

## ROSELAWN CEMETERY

803 W. Larpenteur Ave., Roseville, MN 55113  
(Between Lexington and Dale)

651-489-1720 • [www.roselawncemetery.com](http://www.roselawncemetery.com)

## Community Worship Directory



### ❖ CENTENNIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH—ST. ANTHONY PARK CAMPUS

2200 Hillside Avenue, 651-633-7644

[www.centennialumc.org](http://www.centennialumc.org)

Worship online and in-person

Sundays at 10:30 AM

Find us on Facebook: Centennial SAP for worship schedule.

Authentic. Thinking. Active.

### ❖ ST. ANTHONY PARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

2323 Como Avenue, 651-645-0371

Pastors Jill Rode and Daniel Tallon Ruen

Web, Facebook and Instagram: SAPLC

Live stream on YouTube Channel: [bit.ly/3nWjIDD](https://bit.ly/3nWjIDD)

Sunday worship in-person: 9:30 AM

Music School, all-ages, Wed. evenings: [saplc.org/Music](http://saplc.org/Music)

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

2129 Commonwealth (at Chelmsford), 651-646-7173

[www.sapucc.org](http://www.sapucc.org)

Sunday worship: 10:30 AM in person and via Zoom

Real Church • Real People • Real Life

### ❖ ST. CECILIA'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

2357 Bayless Place, 651-644-4502

[info@stceciliasp.org](mailto:info@stceciliasp.org), [www.stceciliasp.org](http://www.stceciliasp.org)

Handicap-accessible.

Pastor John M. Hofstede

Worship: Saturday 4:30 PM, Sunday 9:30 AM

Weekend Mass online (on our website)

### ❖ ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

2136 Carter Ave. (at Chelmsford), 651-645-3058

[www.stmatthewsmn.org](http://www.stmatthewsmn.org), Facebook: [stmatthewsmn](https://www.facebook.com/stmatthewsmn)

Sunday Eucharist 10:30 AM

Starting June 14, outdoors in College Park

Wednesday Eucharist 12:00 NOON followed by lunch

To add your place of worship to the directory, contact Roald Sateren at 651-468-4040 or [roald.sateren@parkbugle.org](mailto:roald.sateren@parkbugle.org)

# Classifieds

Send your ad to [classifieds@parkbugle.org](mailto:classifieds@parkbugle.org) or P.O. Box 8126, St. Paul, MN 55108. Ads are \$1.15 per word. Phone numbers, email addresses and websites are considered two words. Add a box or art for \$11 each. Next deadline: June 10, 2026.



### For Rent

**OFFICE W/MEZZANINE** and lower-level worker/creative space available for lease at the corner of Como and Carter. For details call Wellington Management at 651-292-9844

**SPACIOUS 1 BEDROOM AND EFFICIENCY**  
Affordable apartments located in Dinkytown, SE Minneapolis. Brown tile floor with white walls and ceiling. Call Dave for appointment at 651-644-5907.

**UPPER-LEVEL DUPLEX FOR RENT**  
1045 Everett Court. 2 BR, 1 Bath, new carpet. \$1,200.00 plus utilities. Contact Dave at 651-644-5907



### Home Services

**BRUSHSTROKES PAINTING**  
Interior/exterior painting & staining. Ceiling/wall repair. High-quality craftsmanship and affordable. 27 yrs exp. Many local references. Tom Marron, 651-230-1272, [tom.marron@yahoo.com](mailto:tom.marron@yahoo.com)

**BURTON'S RAIN GUTTER SERVICE**  
Gutters cleaned, repaired, installed. Insured, bonded. 651-699-8900, [burtionsraingutter.com](http://burtionsraingutter.com)

**FURNITURE REPAIR AND RESTORATION**  
Tim Anderson. Roseville. 715-215-1400, [timdanderson@hotmail.com](mailto:timdanderson@hotmail.com)

**FLANNEL BUILDING & DESIGN (BC807751)**  
Bathrooms | Kitchens | Decks | Remodels  
Contact John at 763-888-3526 or [john@flannelbuilders.com](mailto:john@flannelbuilders.com).  
Instagram @flannelbuilders

**GOPHER PAINTING**  
Affordable quality. Interior specialist 25 years of experience. Call Russ at 651-216-8113.



### GUTTER CLEANING

Let us do the ladder work. Call Larry, 651-635-9228.

**PAINTING HELP**  
Paint & patch interior & exterior. Small jobs wanted. Jim, 612-202-5514

**PRO TEAM PAINTING PLUS**  
Interior & exterior painting. Complete carpentry services. 651-917-2881

**SHEETROCK, TAPE, CEILING FINISH.**  
Call John for estimate: 763-237-4682



### WINDOW WASHING

Inside and out ... You'll see the difference! Call Larry, 651-635-9228



### House Cleaning

**20/20 HOUSE CLEANING**  
Dependable house cleaning. Family-owned and operated. We have been serving the area for over 25 years. 651-635-9228, [2020cleaningspecialist.com](http://2020cleaningspecialist.com)

**QUALITY CLEANING AT REASONABLE RATES**  
Serving the area over 20 years. Rita & Molly, 612-414-9241



### Rummage Sales

**PROSPECT PARK YARD SALES**  
June 13-14, 9am-4pm and Garden Walk June 13, 10am-3pm | Details and maps at [prospectparkmpls.org](http://prospectparkmpls.org).



### Yard Care

**LAWN MOWING**  
Yard Clean up, Gardening. Call 651-635-9228

**STONEWALKER GARDENING SERVICES**  
Garden design, installation and maintenance, spring/fall clean-up. 651-592-0906, [sherryewalker@gmail.com](mailto:sherryewalker@gmail.com)

### Bugle Classifieds work. Let them work for you.



### Rotten Wood?

Moisture damaged window sills, casings & trim replaced

**Hyde & Harmsen Construction**  
Andy 651-698-3156 Since 1975

### Roger's Tree Service

CERTIFIED ARBORIST

### ASH TREATMENTS

"Infuse it or LOSE it!"  
Your Neighborhood Tree Service Since 1974  
• Trimming • Removals • Stumps •  
Licensed / Insured / Free Estimates  
651 699-7022 (c) 612 414-9241 [rogetree.com](http://rogetree.com)



## Window Washing and Gutter Cleaning

Family owned and operated  
Serving the area for over 25 years

**Call Larry 651-635-9228**  
[www.2020cleaningspecialist.com](http://www.2020cleaningspecialist.com)



### Repair ♦ Renovation ♦ Restoration ♦

**651-276-8233**  
*All jobs, big and small!*

♦ ADDITIONS ♦ PORCHES ♦ DECKS ♦  
♦ GARAGES ♦ BATHROOMS ♦

**Contact us TODAY for your FREE ESTIMATE**



Treating your house like a home.

- Interior & Exterior Painting
- Wallpaper Stripping/ Skim Coating
- Wood Stripping & Refinishing
- Plaster/Sheetrock Repair

**FREE ESTIMATES!**

651-699-6140 or 612-827-6140  
[www.PaintingByJerryWind.com](http://www.PaintingByJerryWind.com)





### St Paul PIPEWORKS

Your Local Plumbing Experts

**BETTER. CLEANER. FASTER.**

**We Install and Repair:**

- Toilets
- Faucets & Sinks
- Plumbing & Drains
- Bathtubs & Showers
- Water Heaters
- Garbage Disposals

**651-644-9400**  
[www.stpaulpipeworks.com](http://www.stpaulpipeworks.com)



### TIMOTHY FULLER architects

Design, at home in the neighborhood

New Homes  
Additions  
Alterations  
transformations

651.485.9277

## Obits Overflow from p. 12

Judith worked at St. John's Hospital for 10 years, first as a social worker and later as an administrator. She was ordained in 1996 and served five Lutheran congregations before retiring in 2008.

She is survived by her children, Brett and Angela; and four grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on May 29 at Como Park Lutheran Church. Memorials may be directed to Planned Parenthood or Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness.

**Daniel Hill**  
Daniel George Hill, 89, of Mounds View, died March 22, 2026. He was born April 21, 1936, in Minneapolis to Marjorie and George Hill.

The oldest of four children in his family, Dan grew up in St. Anthony Park, attended Murray High School and studied agronomy accounting at the University of Minnesota.

Dan served as a sergeant in the Army National Guard and was an avid fly fisherman, reader and lover of music.

He was predeceased by his parents, sister Mari Perry and brother John Hill. Survivors include wife Joann, brother Thomas, son Stephen, daughter Kristen (Cortney LeNeave), three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

**Rita Mowdy**  
Rita Rose Marie Mowdy, 87, of Roseville, died April 21. Rita was kind, gentle, humble and faithful.

She was preceded in death by husband, James. She is survived by her children, Tim (Jennifer), Sarah, and Colleen (Dave) Smith; and six grandchildren.

Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11 a.m. on July 2 at the Church of St. Cecilia. Private interment at Fort Snelling National Cemetery. Memorials to Second Harvest Heartland.

**Ann Marie Olson**  
Ann Marie (Nygard) Olson, 91, Roseville, died March 17.

Born Aug. 23, 1934, in St. Paul, Ann was raised in Hudson, Wis., by her mother, Blanche (Hansen) Nygard, after the early death of her father, Sidney Nygard. Later, she and her husband raised their two children in Falcon Heights.

Ann was a devoted member and leader at North Como Presbyterian Church and throughout the Presbyterian Church (USA), serving as an elder, commissioner and leader in Presbyterian Women. She received an Honorary Life Membership in Presbyterian Women.

After moving downtown, Ann became an active member at Westminster Presbyterian in Minneapolis.

She was active in justice work and, with her husband, received the Murray Award from Presbyterian Voices for Justice in 2010.

She is survived by her husband of 66 years, Manley; son Mark; daughter Judy (Charles); and one granddaughter. She was preceded in death by her parents and one grandson.

Memorials may be sent to the Nygard-Hansen Scholarship at UWRF ([uwrf.edu/universityadvancement/giving](http://uwrf.edu/universityadvancement/giving)) or Ghost Ranch Conference Center, Abiquiu, N.M. ([ghost ranch.org](http://ghost ranch.org)).

## ROOFING AND SIDING INSTALLED PERFECTLY EVERY TIME

Proudly built by a highly skilled immigrant team.

- ✓ Expert craftsmanship
- ✓ Values-driven company
- ✓ \$300+ donated per project to pro-immigration causes

**BOOK A FREE INSPECTION**

FULLY LICENSED & INSURED 612-245-8981 [INTERNATIONALROOFING.ORG](http://INTERNATIONALROOFING.ORG)

*We believe in human rights, voting rights, and reproductive freedom—for everyone.*



## LIBRARY CORNER

Library Corner  
sponsored by  
St Anthony Park Branch  
Library Association



# Singing Resistance takes stage at SAP Arts Festival

By Rita LaDoux,  
Commentary

The power of community.

That is the focus of the St. Anthony Park Arts Festival. The day-long annual arts event is built on getting together, greeting friends and neighbors, and coming together as a community to celebrate our common love of art, music, neighbors and the St. Anthony Park Library.

This past winter, the SAP community and others throughout St. Paul, Minneapolis and all of Minnesota gathered together to resist ICE (Immigration Customs Enforcement) and to support our neighbors.

Watchers at street corners with whistles and neon jackets stood every day to protect children on their way to and from school.

Others provided transportation for workers and students who feared being picked up.

Murray Middle School parents held bake and craft sales to raise money for families in need.

The International Institute of Minnesota provided food and legal assistance to its many clients. Thousands showed up for response actions and city-wide marches.

## Singing Resistance

But standing out and leading the response was Singing Resistance.

This decentralized but deeply dedicated group is united by core values of “building a mass movement of singers to protect and care for our communities in the face of rising authoritarianism.”

Singing Resistance gathered on street corners and near pro-

test scenes; marched in the SAP Luminary Festival; rallied at the Whipple Detention Center and outside ICE-occupied hotels; and led many protest marches throughout the Twin Cities. Their voices welcomed all of our voices, and as a community we were united in song—singing joyfully and powerfully about our strengths and commitment to loving community ties and the cause of pushing ICE out of Minnesota, while also voicing the grief and anger of losing our neighbors, and losing Renée Good and Alex Pretti.

Singing Resistance—our friends and neighbors, some known, some stranger—represent the power of community, of working together

and holding “this little light of mine” that each of us treasure in our hearts. There is power in song.

Songs have been shared for ages—songs of love, of loss, of faith, of patriotism, of beauty, of strength. Songs united and empowered the Civil Rights movement of the 1960’s. And in Minnesota in 2026, songs helped drive ICE out of town.

Now communities across the U.S. are asking our song leaders to teach them how to build resistance through song.

## Singing on June 6

Singing Resistance will take a stand for community at the SAP Arts Festival on Saturday June 6.

Members of the group will gather at the library stage at 3:50 p.m. to rise in song. All are welcome to join in.

After the gathering songs, Arts Fest favorites Pig’s Eye Jass Band and crooner Nancy Hite will join in the spirit of community with some great New Orleans jazz.

Singing Resistance will then return to the stage and invite visitors to join them in singing several classic jazz songs including “Down by the Riverside” and “When the Saints Go Marching In.” All voices are welcome! ■

Rita LaDoux is chair of the St. Anthony Park Branch Library.

## St. Anthony Park Library events

Compiled by Kathy Henderson

You’ll find familiar favorites and special programs on the June calendar at the St. Anthony Park Library, 2245 Como Ave.

The library will be closed Friday, May 29, for staff training. In observance of Juneteenth, the library will close at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 18, and remain closed Thursday, June 19.

## Special Event

### 2026 Book Sale Fundraiser

Book sale hours are 1 to 4 p.m. on Friday, June 5, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, June 6. More details at [sapbla.org/calendar/booksale2026](http://sapbla.org/calendar/booksale2026).

## St. Anthony Park Arts Festival

10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Beer & Mead Garden noon to 6 p.m. Saturday, June 6. Annual arts celebration on the library lawn and along Como and Carter avenues, featuring artists, musicians, hands-on activities, art-making stations, community organizations and food vendors.

The Beer & Mead Garden, which features handcrafted brews and meads from local makers, requires wristbands for alcoholic purchases. Artist and food vendor lists: [sapfest.org](http://sapfest.org). Survey raffle: [sapfest.org/raffle](http://sapfest.org/raffle). Produced by the St. Anthony Park Branch Library Association.

## Arts Festival story time

10 to 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, June 6. Join Alisa Mee from the St. Anthony Park Library for a special, all-ages, outdoor storytelling event on the Arts Festival Library Lawn Stage. In the event of rain, the storytelling event will be cancelled.

## Planting Words: Homespun Alchemy

6:30 to 7:45 p.m. on Thursday, June 18. Local poet Julie Martin will read from her debut collection “Homespun Alchemy,” which is rooted in the rhythms of gardens and seasonal change and reflects on home, resilience and renewal. Refreshments follow. Optional:

Bring a partially used seed packet to share or swap.

## Familiar Favorites

### Storytime in the Park

10:30 to 11 a.m. on Tuesdays, June 9, 16, 23 and 30. Songs, rhymes and puppets outside at College Park, 2223 Carter Ave. Designed for children ages birth to five, their caregivers and siblings. In the case of inclement weather, storytime will be held in the St. Anthony Park Library auditorium. The decision to move to the library will be made by 9:30 a.m. on storytime days and posted to [sppl.org](http://sppl.org).

Due to space limitations, a complete list of St. Anthony Park Library programs can be found on the St. Paul Public Library events page, where you can filter by the St. Anthony Park location. [sppl.bibliocommons.com](http://sppl.bibliocommons.com). ■

Compiled from the SAP library website by Kathy Henderson.



St Paul’s largest independent bookstore

Come in and ask us  
for recommendations.

[www.nextchapterbooksellers.com](http://www.nextchapterbooksellers.com)

38 S Snelling Ave, St Paul MN • 651-225-8989

Open Mondays–Saturdays 10:00 am–5:00 pm and Sundays 12:00 pm–5:00 pm

Now is the time to  
plan your next trip!

Make an appointment to stop in. Ask us about tailoring an itinerary for you. Call on our experience creating travel memories.



2190 Como Avenue • St. Paul • 651-646-8855



St. Anthony Park Branch Library Association  
annual

BOOK SALE  
EXTRAVAGANZA!

Books priced to sell! Support your local library!



In partnership with the Saint Anthony Park Library



Friday, June 5, 1:00–4:00 pm

Saturday, June 6, 10:00 am–4:00 pm

Library Auditorium | 2245 Como Ave.

More information at [sapbla.org](http://sapbla.org)

**BOLÉ**  
ETHIOPIAN CUISINE

Ethiopian food is one of the most exciting cuisines in the world  
BOLÉ GIVES YOU THE REAL TASTE OF ETHIOPIA!

**COMO AREA**

1341 PASCAL ST N • ST PAUL, MN 55108  
[Boleethiopiancuisine.com](http://Boleethiopiancuisine.com) • (651)-330-2492



WHERE THE  
NEIGHBORHOOD  
MEETS FOR  
ICE CREAM

898 Raymond Ave.,  
St. Paul, MN

## SPRING HOURS

Thursdays & Fridays: 4–9pm  
Saturdays & Sundays: 1–9pm  
Extended summer hours coming soon!

@parkviewicecream

# Shopping tips for summer food market season

By Jenni Burg

It's market season in Minnesota! While a few farmers' markets stay open year-round, it's the late spring when the availability of home-grown produce starts to ramp up. The smaller markets open up, more vendors partake, loads of produce line the tables, and it's finally warm enough to enjoy the fruits of your haul spread out on a blanket, soaking up the sun. Before you grab your market totes and go skipping off to the rainbow of sun shaded tables, here are some things to remember:

- **Bring cash.** While many vendors accept card payments, some do not. Many may appreciate cash or may charge a small fee for card payment processing. Bonus tip: Bring a collection of smaller bills to make cash pay easier and more convenient.
- **Along with your market totes, consider bringing a cooler** if the weather is warm or if you have other stops to make before arriving home to ensure your goods aren't affected by the heat.

- **Arrive early** for peak selection of goods or late for a bargain. Shopping at the start of the market offers the widest choice and a better chance of picking up goods where quantities may be limited. Alternatively, arriving near the end of the market can sometimes mean scoring reduced prices as vendors may not want to take excess goods home.
- **Shop in season.** Pay attention to what's in its prime right now. Living in Minnesota, we have such a small window to catch produce at its peak—we don't want to miss it!

Seasonal produce generally has better flavor and is cheaper since it is plentiful. In June, look for asparagus, rhubarb, strawberries, radishes, greens and herbs.

- **Make a list.** Just like at the grocery store, it can feel overwhelming and easy to forget what you need if you go into the market without a plan. Write down your essentials (carrots, parsley, eggs and bread) so you can free up your brain to explore what other



Spring asparagus meal. Photo by Jenni Burg.

- fun things you might like to try this week.
- **Visit with your vendor.** Chatting with your farmer, baker, or gardener is not only enjoyable and good for community connection, it's also a chance to learn more about what you're buying—when to eat it, how to prepare or care for it, and how

- to store it. You may also hear about new items coming to market or even score a deal if you're buying in bulk.
- **Pick your produce.** Ask your vendor if you can touch or smell your produce before buying. Sounds weird, but senses are the number one tool to use when it comes to selecting high quality produce.

- Pick fruits and vegetables that smell fragrant and are heavy for their size – steering away from larger-sized pieces of produce as they can often be woody in texture and less flavorful.
- **Check on pets.** Many markets do not allow dogs on the premises, so it's always good to check the policies of your local market before going.

Whether you go on a Saturday morning or Tuesday after work, is there anything better than strolling the market aisle with a home-baked scone in hand or snacking on fresh, sweet snap peas while your kiddos run around on the grass in circles? There is just something about enjoying the tastes of Minnesota outside, amidst a hub of community and connection, on a sunny summer day that just can't be beat. If you're looking to find a local market or explore new markets in the area this season, the directory available at [minnesotagrown.com](http://minnesotagrown.com) makes that an easy task. Happy market shopping! ■ Jenni Burg is a dietitian and freelance writer who writes about food and nutrition for the Bugle.

## Como Park High School News

By Eric Erickson

**Tennis team takes conference title**  
The Como boys tennis team won the St. Paul City Conference championship for the first time since 2006, when legendary coach Kathy Dumas led the program. Twenty years later, the team clinched the title on the courts Dumas donated before her death last fall, defeating Johnson in the rivalry match for the Dumas Cup. It was a full-circle moment for Cougar coaches, alumni and the current players, who wear her signature on their uniforms.

**Peltier represents at Worlds**  
Como sophomore Anna Peltier earned the prestigious FIRST Leadership Award at the Northern Lights Regional in Duluth earning her the opportunity to represent the Cougar BEASTBot 2855 team at the FIRST Robotics World Championships in Houston, Texas. As a team, BEASTBot won the Judge's Award at the 10,000 Lakes Regional in Minneapolis. The award highlights a team's unique efforts and spirit among team members and in competition. Como BEASTBot placed 48th out of 184 teams in the state.

**Pomp and circumstance**  
Como juniors and seniors celebrated the 2026 prom on Friday, May 15, at the Wabasha Caves on St. Paul's West Side. The theme was "A Masquerade Ball." After a COVID-era hiatus, the Senior All-Night Party at Como has returned, thanks to advocacy from student council leaders.



The Como Park High School boys tennis team clinched the St. Paul City Championship, finishing undefeated in the conference. Photo by Malia Lor.

Senior Honors Night was held Thursday, May 21, in the Como Auditorium. Along with academic, athletic, leadership and community honors, substantial college scholarships were announced—including several surprises.

**2026 commencement**  
The commencement ceremony for the Como Class of 2026 will take place at Roy Wilkins Auditorium

downtown at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, June 3, followed by the Senior All-Night Party. The final day of school for ninth-, 10th- and 11th-grade students is June 11. Staff will close out the academic year on June 12. ■

Eric Erickson is a social studies teacher at Como Park Senior High School and writes for the Bugle.

### Honor Your Graduate!

**Celebrate your graduate's accomplishment by placing an ad in our July issue.**

Go to [parkbugle.org/graduation-ads](http://parkbugle.org/graduation-ads) Or scan this QR code. Once there, fill out all form fields, upload a high-resolution color photo, select your ad size, and submit payment via PayPal.

**DEADLINE: Wednesday, June 3, 2026**

## Cocktails on the Patio

**Lanna Thai**

### AUTHENTIC THAI FOOD

**Our Patio is Open for Summer Blooms**  
Dine-In / Outside Seating / Take-Out / Delivery

**Offering Beer, Wine & Cocktails**  
Open Monday–Sunday / Lunch Specials 11am-2pm

**LannaThaiMN.com**

**2295 Como Ave | 612-470-7172**

### CALVARY CEMETERY OPEN HOUSES & HISTORIC WALKING TOURS

**Thursday, Jun. 25 & Tuesday, Sept. 22**  
Open House from 10:00 am - 1:00 pm  
Historic Tours from 10:00 am - 11:30 am

**753 FRONT AVE  
SAINT PAUL, MN 55103**

**THE CATHOLIC CEMETERIES** [CATHOLIC-CEMETERIES.ORG](http://CATHOLIC-CEMETERIES.ORG)  
(651) 488-8866

## CPHS COUGAR SPORTS



# Engman-Phiri earns Athena Award

By Eric Erickson,  
Sports analysis

Senior Robin Engman-Phiri was selected as Como Park High School's 2026 Athena Award recipient.

A two-sport varsity athlete in golf and soccer with a 4.08 weighted GPA while serving as student council vice-president, Robin stands out among a talented senior class for this individual honor.

However, Robin's greatest strengths shine through her teamwork. She played varsity soccer as a freshman, coming into the program with enthusiasm and a willingness to learn from older players. Her infectious attitude and positive spirit propelled her to become a leader, both vocally and by example.

## Natural choice for captain

Robin was a natural choice for soccer captain in her senior season, anchoring the defense and, remarkably, playing every minute of every game during her four years for the Cougars.

In golf, she was the Cougar's top player for several seasons after beginning as a seventh-grader at Murray Middle School. While golf is an individual sport in which she

excelled as a perennial top three player in the conference, Robin's greatest asset is her encouragement of teammates.

"Robin is as much a mentor as she is a competitor," Como golf coach Jonah Fields said. "Her technical knowledge and course management skills are so advanced that she often serves as an extension of the coaching staff. For Robin, golf is the perfect marriage of her natural social gifts and her drive as an athlete."

Sumaya Mohamed has seen similar attributes, citing Robin's selfless leadership, while working with her as the varsity soccer coach and as an advisor to the Como Student Council.

"On the field she is the leader that all our players look up to for her tenacity and spirit," Mohamed said. "Robin does an amazing job of working hard and encouraging her teammates to excel as well."

"Similarly, as a leader in the building, she represents the values of what it means to be a Cougar," Mohamed continued. "She is fearless and goes above and beyond in making our school community the most vibrant and welcoming atmosphere possible. Because of her, many of our students are interested in taking part in student council."

## Humble and balanced

Robin's journey through sports is admirable in an era of increasing specialization. Born in Zambia, she moved to St. Paul with her mother and brother when she was six years old and attended Como Elementary School.

She tried soccer at the Orchard Recreation Center through the St. Paul Blackhawks Little Hawks program but never pursued year-round club play. Robin's uncle encouraged her to give golf a try as a youth.

"I wasn't good at it, but I had fun," Robin said. When she joined the Como team her interest increased to the point that she joined the Solomon Hughes Senior Golf Academy summer program which has a focus on serving BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and People of Color) youth.

She filled her winters by trying high school basketball, thriving on Como's junior varsity and earning player of the year and hustle awards during her three seasons.

The fact that Robin embraced junior varsity basketball while already a decorated varsity athlete in two other sports testifies to the value of balance and playing sports for the right reasons. For her, those



Robin Engman-Phiri is Como Park's Athena Award winner for 2026.  
Justin Oakman Photography.

reasons were being physically active and socially engaged.

"My favorite things from sports have been the people. In soccer, the relationships and how our captains brought us along. I'd like to think I helped my teammates in the same way I was helped."

"And golf is so social. I'm a very social person, so being able to play a sport and yap somebody's ear off the entire time was right up my alley."

Even with her elevated skills and all-conference accolades, Robin has retained the ability to make

every competition fun for her opponents and herself.

Robin will be attending St. Olaf College next fall with plans to major in psychology.

Asked what advice she would offer young high school student-athletes, Robin said, "Comparison is the thief of joy. It doesn't matter if they are better than you. What matters is how you can improve." ■

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

## MidCity Farmers Market

Every Wed 4-8pm | June - Sept

Farmers, food producers, artists, live music & hot food every week!

693 Raymond Ave

EBT/SNAP & Market Bucks accepted!



Remodeling with Character 651 645 5429

BC443135



## MB's Residential Cleaning

Woman owned, local, 30 years in business, employment opportunities!

Partners with Cleaning for a Reason



Keeping a clean home ensures good health. Schedule a cleaning today!

Contact us for a free quote!

info@mbscleaning.com

651-225-1960

MBsCleaning.com

## Present Company

Y'all means all.

Records | CDs | DVDs | VHS | Stereos | Books | Stickers  
Milton Square Courtyard Shoppes, Suite 6  
presentcompanyanalog.com | 651-760-3376

## Motorcycle, boat, RV coverage just for you.



Jim Roehrenbach  
Agent

2190 Como Ave Ste 3  
Saint Paul, MN 55108-1851

Bus: 651-644-3740  
jim.roehrenbach.b5dr@statefarm  
www.jrnsf.com



Prices vary by state. Options selected by customer; availability and eligibility may vary. Each State Farm insurer has sole financial responsibility for its own products.

State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company  
State Farm Fire and Casualty Company  
Bloomington, IL



**MINNEPAU**  
VETERINARY CLINIC  
IN SAINT ANTHONY PARK

Your neighborhood Veterinarian

Accepting New Patients

TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT

612.314.3969

OR

www.minnepau.com

