

The view from here

Any community faces challenges that can divide it. The University Grove is no exception. In the past, divisions arose out of differing ideas about land use and the relationship between the Grove and the University. These and other issues have the potential to divide our community again. My answer to our flawed and fallible human condition: First, more parties. Second, recognize and meet more of your amazing neighbors. The Grove activities that bring us together honor our history and nurture our unique neighborhood and help us weather the storms. With that in mind: Did you miss the Grove home architectural tour this fall but want to participate as host or guest next year?

Do you remember the Grove's progressive dinner parties in the past and want to revive them?

Could you help with plans for National Night Out or the Young Families Picnic?

The new Bell: no other museum like it

About 80 citizens gathered for the Bell Museum September presentation at City Hall amid a tornado watch. In less than 20 minutes, all were hustled into the basement and the meeting continued. Several CERTS-trained (Community Emergency Response Team) attendees greatly aided the move, proving how handy these skills are in everyday life.

It was clear from the presentation that a great amount of careful planning has already gone into this landmark project. "We're not just moving a museum," said Bell Museum Director Scott Lanyon, "we're creating a nature, science and art museum that is unique and a complex task for architects." Plans call for a flexible exhibit space that blends the indoor museum with the outdoor landscape. Kestrel Design showed renderings of the auditorium, indoor/outdoor café, outdoor reception plaza and outdoor exhibits/classrooms. Mayor Sue Gehrz said its location next to Gibbs Farm offers side-by-side field trips and has teachers really excited. She said the Bell Museum would be a beautiful gateway to the St. Paul campus, attracting both families and businesses to Falcon Heights.

Do you have an idea for a newsletter story or ways to improve the web site? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, please come to the annual meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 16 and be an active participant in our annual recap of the year and a look at what's ahead.

Our social traditions and ability to function as an organization rely on volunteer effort. Since 1999, Karen Kloser has served as an unpaid staff liaison to the Grove Homeowners Association, providing continuity between boards of directors, public relations, and administrative and organizational support as required. The future of her role will be on the agenda.

And as promised at the start of my term, legal incorporation will also be on the agenda to better protect the assets of the serving officers against liability.

See you on the 16th at 7 P.M.

— Beth Mercer-Taylor, president

The Bell Museum currently has designs for six of the 12-acre site until the recreational soccer fields are relocated. A projected opening of 2009-2010 allows for a legislative bonding request in 2008 and continued fund-raising. So far, they've raised \$6 million toward a current projected cost of \$32 million. Representatives Ellen Anderson and Alice Hausman are big supporters as is Congresswoman Betty McCollum. They will be key players in the funding requests according to Lanyon.

The project has specific sustainable design goals which include water quality, energy efficiency, human factors, education, green roof technology, living walls and wildlife. The planners studied glacial patterns, 1854 landscape survey notes and the museum's connection to the campus spatially and visually. Guiding the architectural design is a fire and ice metaphor for the prairie wildfires and the glaciated landscape. An east-west horizontal placement of the building will have minimal impact on 1666 Coffman and the Grove.

Challenges remain with controlling visitor access onto the grounds from the trolley track line; the Historical Society

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2285 Folwell

Record dues collected

Nearly all of the 2005 household dues have been collected. If you have not yet contributed, please send \$10 to Gary Wright at 2129 Hoyt.

New neighbors

Caprice Niccoli Waller, Niels Waller and Quinn (18 months), [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. Niels is the director of psychometrics and quantitative methods in the psychology department. Caprice holds a part-time psychology lectureship in CLA. They previously lived in Nashville, Tenn.

Mark Brunberg and Jennifer Besse, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. They have two children, Alexander, 8, and Meghan, 12. Alexander attends Crossroads Charter and Meghan attends Murray Junior High. Jennifer works as a biostatistician at Boston Scientific and Mark is currently remodeling their house. They formerly lived in the Como Park area.

Cat calls

Please put bells on the collars of your outdoor cat(s) as a consideration to neighbors who love birds.

Home for sale:

2160 Folwell

Contact: Nancy Meeden
(651) 282-9650

Canadian expatriates at home in the Grove

By Karen Kloser

Aiden Deen greeted me with Louie, his “pocket pet” — a black and white 7-inch rat — crawling all over him. I was unruffled as Louie scooted across the floor and climbed furniture until it found my pants leg and crawled inside. My jumps and yelps brought howls of laughter from the precocious 10-year-old. Aiden is the youngest of John and Denise Deen’s children. He is a fifth-grader at Central Lutheran School in St. Paul, an avid soccer player since age five and a member of the Minnesota BoyChoir along with his brother Tobin. Aiden currently plays for TC Fire, a traveling soccer team. Tobin referees soccer and their sister Bronwyn, 14, plays on her high school soccer team.



On the St. Paul campus. L-R: Tobin, 16, Aiden, 10, and Bronwyn, 14.

Three kids in three different schools and all active in sports makes for a very busy family. In between schedules, the family travels as a favorite pastime. John, a swine epidemiologist in the vet school, travels to some exciting locales and the family, part or all, often accompanies him. In November, they will be in Paris where John has a conference. A year ago last summer, they went to China. Previous destinations have included Thailand, England, the Canary Islands, Holland, and living in New Zealand for a month. Every summer they spend a few weeks in Canada with relatives. This year, the kids helped clean one of their uncle’s three chicken barns home to a flock of 25,000. It was quite the farm experience for these city kids who also witnessed puppies birthing.

John and Denise are originally from Guelph, Ontario, west of Toronto. They

Bell Museum continued

schoolhouse relocation; and a safe crosswalk between Gibbs Farm and the new museum. The bee labs will be moved during construction.

Lanyon assured attendees that the planners are committed to community participation and building a museum compatible with residential neighborhoods.

moved to the United States in 1992 to Raleigh, N.C. In 1999, they moved to the Grove and live at 1564 Fulham, also known as the Tyler house and designed by the Closes. Denise works part-time for the White Bear Lake school district in the home-based Early Childhood Special Education program.

In the morning when they all go their different directions, Bronwyn has the furthest commute. She is a freshman at the Agricultural and Food Sciences

Academy in Vadnais Heights. Although it appears she’s following in her dad’s “ag” footsteps, she chose this high school “because it wasn’t Tobin’s school.” Her hour-long commute starts with boarding a city bus to Little Canada where she catches a school bus to

the academy. Her school emphasizes project-based learning and she is currently conducting an experiment on the effects of biofuel in lanterns with a combination of vegetable oil and kerosene. Tobin, a 16-year-old junior at Concordia Academy, takes post secondary education opportunity classes three days week at St. Thomas for college credit. He has attended UMTYMP, the University’s advanced math program for youth, since eighth grade. He travels with the Boy Choir (New York City in 2006), plays tennis for Concordia and maintains a 4.0 GPA. This summer he took a mission trip to Pittsburgh with his church youth group to help build a café/neighborhood meeting place. The year before he worked on the Red Shirt Table South Dakota Indian reservation.

Clearly, John and Denise have a brood worth crowing about.

A second meeting was held Oct. 18.

Condolences

Former Grove resident John Turner, political science regents’ professor emeritus, died Oct. 5 at age 88. His wife, Elsie, lives at HealthEast Care System Senior Care Centers, 1891 Florence St., #2104, White Bear Lake, Minn., 55110.

Kudos:

Ken Leopold, chemistry professor, is a recipient of the Distinguished Teaching Award, for excellent classroom teaching and outstanding work involving students in research and developing curriculum.

Alison Davis-Blake, daughter of **Gordon** and **LaNay Davis**, will be the new dean of the Carlson School of Management on July 1, 2006. She is the school’s 11th dean and first woman to hold that position. She is currently the senior associate dean at the McCombs School of Business at the University of Texas, Austin. Alison grew up in the Grove and attended Brimhall Elementary, Fairview Junior High and Alexander Ramsey High School. A friend remarked that it was good that Gordon retired this past year as a professor in the Carlson School; otherwise, his daughter would be his boss. Alison is married to Michael Blake, a software developer, and has two sons, ages 10 and 13.

These Grove residents fulfill a civic duty and represent our neighborhood on city commissions: **Barbara Lukermann** and **Beth Mercer-Taylor**, Planning Commission, **Gene Ozasky**, Parks & Rec Commission, **Susan Harding**, Environment Commission, **Dan Detzner**, chair, Human Rights Commission.

The summer CERT training session graduated Grove residents **Mel Baughman**, **Barbara** and **Pat O’Leary** and **Patricia Tomlinson**. In the last two years, six other Grove residents and three 1666 Coffman residents completed CERT training. The city’s goal is to have 100 trained volunteers minimum. The State of Minnesota is watching Falcon Heights CERTS program — it’s the only community that’s had a disaster exercise with the police and fire departments.

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